DAILY REPORT

CONTENTS

Latin America

Vol VI No 084 1 May 1986

INTER-AMERICAN AFFAIRS

Anti-Drug Conference Issues Policy Document [EFE] A 1

CHILE

Shantytown 'Dragnet' Pursues Criminals E 1
Dinacos Reports Arrests E 1

COLOMBIA

Nicaragua Denies Plan To Revive San Andres Claim F 1
[EL TIEMPO 25 Apr]
Liberals Ask Betancur To Suspend '100-Day Plan' F 1
[EL TIEMPO 25 Apr] F 2
Army, FARC Leaders Dispute Truce Violations F 2
[EL TIEMPO 26 Apr]

PARAGUAY

Stroessner Said Preparing for Exile in Taiwan H 1
HOY Calls for Investigation of U.S. Envoy [30 Apr] H 1
Archbishop Issues Message on Strike, Violence H 2
[LA TARDE 25 Apr]
FRG Delivers 'Sharp Protest' on Arrests H 3

PERU

Salvadoran Officials, FMLN Meet at Garcia's Home J 1
Garcia Meets Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister J 1
Government Seeks Renegotiation of Debt Repayment J 1
High Command To Meet With Chilean Counterparts J 2
Government Protests U.S., French Nuclear Tests J 3

VENEZUELA

Officials Brief Lusinchi on Increased Oil Exports L 1
ALASEI Examines Role of Opposition, Economy L 2
Briefs: Training Aircraft From Brazil L 2

MEXICO

Group Issues Communique on U.S. Embassy Bomb M 1
[UNOMASUNO 28 Apr]
De la Madrid on Administrative Decentralization M 2
[EL DIA 18 Apr]

PANAMA

Reaction to Conspiracy Allegation Continues N 1
Arias Calls for Evidence N 1
[LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA 29 Apr]
Skepticism Toward Plot Scored N 1
[EL SIGLO 29 Apr]
Columnist 'Unmasks' Conspirators N 2
[EL SIGLO 30 Apr]
Vasquez on Debt Refinancing, Economic Situation N 3
Briefs: New Ambassadors N 3

CENTRAL AMERICA

COSTA RICA

Gutierrez Calls for Changes in Constitution P 1

EL SALVADOR

Duarte on Rey Prendes-FDR Talks in Lima P 1
Mexico's EXCELSIOR Interviews President Duarte [23 Apr] P 2
Guatemalan Police Hold 2 From 'Gang of Kidnappers' P 9

GUATEMALA

Cerezo Sends Letter to Mutual Aid Group Sit-In P 9
Unsitragua Supports Demands P 10
Trade Union Rejects Government's Wage Policy P 10

HONDURAS

UNHCR Discusses Refugee Figures, Repatriation P 10
[TIEMPO 28 Apr]
Government Pardons Alvarez Martinez, Torres Arias P 11

NICARAGUA

Government Protests Honduran Border Incidents P 12
D'Escoto Says U.S. World Terrorism Leader P 13
Opposition Groups: Contadora To Benefit Sandinists P 14
[Bogoto EL TIEMPO 25 Apr]
U.S. Aid to Contras Criticized at UNAG Congress P 15
[BARRICADA 28 Apr]
CIA Accused of Using UNHCR To Deceive Miskitos P 15
Iranian Ambassador Comments on U.S., Libya P 16
[BARRICADA 28 Apr]
TANA Issues International Labor Day Communique P 17
Government Accused of Confiscating Private Lands [AFP] P 18

CUBA

Government Postpones Debt Payment of $500 Million [DPA] Q 1
Peruvian Prime Minister Arrives on Visit Q 1
Risquet Meets With FRG Green Party Delegation Q 1
International Communications Symposium Ends Q 2
Ambassador Blames U.S. for UN Financial Crisis Q 2

CARIBBEAN

BARBADOS

Trinidad's Chambers Ends 2-Day Official Visit S 1
Text of Joint Communique S 1

HAITI

Opposition Calls for Strike, Council Resignation S 3

JAMAICA

WPJ Raps USSR for Slow Nuclear Accident Reporting S 4

OTHER COUNTRIES

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Communist Candidates Arrested While Campaigning V 1

URUGUAY

Labor Minister Meets With Argentine Counterpart V 1

ANTI-DRUG CONFERENCE ISSUES POLICY DOCUMENT

PY282345 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1206 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Rio de Janeiro, 26 Apr (EFE) -- Multinational drug trafficking organizations, operating in drug-producing Latin American countries, the United States, and Europe, have become a serious threat to the peace and stability of the American democracies. This is one of the main conclusions of a document approved during "the 1st inter-American conference on the struggle against drug trafficking" held in Rio de Janeiro from 22 to 25 April under the auspices of the OAS. All the delegations agreed that isolated actions by any one country are inadequate when confronting the power of international drug traffickers who have even infiltrated the administrations of some states.

Bolivian Interior Minister Fernando Barthelemy today told EFE that the conference did not produce spectacular conclusions but clearly established that the producing countries are not the only ones to be blamed for the increase of cocaine production and its distribution in the international market. One of the main points of discussion during the conference concerned the responsibility of the consuming countries for indirectly encouraging increases in drug production. Colombian Justice Minister Enrique Parejo -- Colombia is one of the main cocaine-producing countries -- has stated that America has a "dangerous common enemy: drug trafficking." The Inter-American program for the struggle against drug trafficking states that international cooperation is indispensable to successfully confront the multinational drug trafficking organizations. It also made clear that "those systems must operate without pressures of any kind."

This recommendation was included because some of the delegations have charged the United States with conditioning its economic assistance to the acceptance of its own program for the control and reduction of coca-leaf plantations, without respect for the tradition and the culture of those nations. Another recommendation states that the sovereignty of the nations must be respected. This applies to cooperation programs aimed at reducing demand and controlling illegal trafficking. Among the measures suggested to eradicate drug production, the document urges member countries to strengthen the operation capabilities of their customs and police bodies. It also suggests investigating the origin of the funds of notorious, but unpunished, drug traffickers.

In addition, the document endorses the establishment of strict controls on the manufacture, importation, exportation, transportation, and marketing of solvents and other chemicals requied for drug production. Concerning crop substitution and the erradication of coca-leaf plantations, mainly in Bolivia, Peru, and Colombia, the document recommends that the plan be enacted when prevailing socioeconomic conditions permit. The conclusions suggest the establishment of national funds for the prevention of drug abuse. This will be achieved through public or private voluntary contributions, official governmental budgets, and funds and assets seized from the traffickers. These proposals will be reviewed during the next OAS General Assembly. The permanent commission on the struggle against drug trafficking has recommended that this matter be included in the annual agenda to assess the results of the struggle against this crime.

The establishment of penalties to prevent the "laundering" of drug trafficking revenue at private banks in the United States, Panama, and the Cayman Islands was unsuccessful despite pressure exerted by the producing countries and despite the initial interest of the United States and other nations with drug consumption problems.

SHANTYTOWN 'DRAGNET' PURSUES CRIMINALS

PY010256 Santiago Radio Chilena in Spanish 2300 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Relay from Santa Julia shantytown in Santiago by Angelica Cabello]

[Excerpts] Good evening. The dragnet that has continued throughout the afternoon here in the Santa Julia, conducted by members of the military, Carabineros, CNI [National Intelligence Center] and the Investigative Police, will presumably come to an end within the next fiew minutes. It is the same type of dragnet that was conducted yesterday in La Legua and El Pinar. An Army officer has reported that by 2000 they will be leaving this sector.

So far more than 1,000 persons have been detained during the operation and taken to the football stadium that is located in the middle of the shantytown. Most of the detainees are men between the ages of 16 and 60. Those persons that do not have police or political records were released after being stamped on the right hand with a blue rubber stamp. The stamp bore the word confidential. Those not released are divided into two groups, one for common crimes and the other for political activities.

During the course of the afternoon, journalists have run into enormous difficulties trying to report on the situation. Access to the shantytown was prohibited and those reporters who were able to enter were detained and searched before they could reach the stadium. No report has been released on the final number of persons that remain in detention. And, as we have been reporting during the course of the afternoon, the telephone and electricity systems have been cut. The same thing happened yesterday in El Pinar and La Legua.

We have been moving around the military cordon, in other words, along Los Presidentes Avenue to the east, Macul Avenue to the west, Rodrigo de Araya Avenue to the north, and Los Olmos Street to the south. At this time there seems to be a more relaxed atmosphere. The attitude of the military has changed to a certain extent, despite the fact that their faces are still painted black and their submachine guns are at the ready, they are chatting with the inhabitants at street corners. Some of them are smoking while they wait for the order to withdraw from this shantytown. We expect an official report to be released during the course of the night on the status of the people that have been detained during this dragnet that has been undertaken by the military, Carabineros and civilians.

Dinacos Reports Arrests

PY010325 Santiago Domestic Service in Spanish 0300 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] National Social Communications Agency [Dinacos] has reported that during the combined operation that was carried out by Carabineros, Army troops and Investigative Police personnel in the Santa Julia shantytown, it was found that 1,300 persons had police records and (?190) had committed crimes. These men were taken to detention centers and will later be placed at the disposal of the appropriate courts. Men between the ages of 16 and 60 were detained during the operation.

NICARAGUA DENIES PLAN TO REVIVE SAN ANDRES CLAIM

Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Apr 86 p 7-d

[Text] Nicaragua Ambassador to Colombia Francisco Quinones has said that the Colombian Government should not be too concerned by the dispute with the Sandinist government over maritime and submarine areas. He admitted that the likelihood exists that Managua may withdraw its rejection of the Esguerra-Barcenas Treaty. The head of the diplomatic mission, who is about to leave in a few days, told the Colombian Radio Group that Nicaragua "has not rekindled, nor does it want to rekindle" its claims to the San Andres archipelago. Quinones said strongly that the Colombian Government and our country's top political and economic leaders have periodically resumed negotiations on that Nicaraguan issue. [sentence as published]

On the Contadora Group's situation, he said that Nicaragua has not torpedoed the international efforts to achieve peace in the region. He labelled those who have accused the Nicaraguan Government of hampering the signing of the Contadora Document "uninformed and hardly objective." The Sandinist ambassador denied that revolutionaries are being trained in his country to export [revolutions]. Moreover he stressed that the reports by the DEA that Colombian guerrillas are being trained near Managua "are clearly biased and unfounded." The diplomat acknowledged that the only way to achieve a negotiated solution in the region is through the Contadora Group. He reiterated that his country will sign the protocol on 6 June if it receives guarantees that the United States will move away from any interventionist action.

The ambassador denied that his departure from the diplomatic mission in Bogota constitutes a Nicaraguan reprisal for the way in which the dispute between the two nations is being handled. Regarding the likelihood that Nicaragua may withdraw its claim to the San Andres Archipelago, the ambassador said:

"Nicaragua has not tried to rekindle that problem. On the contrary, we have tried to foster the right atmosphere so that the Colombian people can become fully aware and trust that the Nicaraguan Government has never tried to rekindle that matter. The Colombian people must be fully and absolutely assured that Nicaragua has never mentioned or considered adopting military stances against the Colombian Government and people."

LIBERALS ASK BETANCUR TO SUSPEND '100-DAY PLAN'

PA301824 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Apr 86 p 7 D

[Text] The Liberal Party yesterday called for the suspension of the implementation of the "100-day plan," approved by a government meeting held at Narino Palace on Monday. According to the party, it is up to the new administration to study it and make decisions as to its advisability.

"The nation knows nothing of that which was announced can be done in such a short period of time. It also knows that the intention behind it is to tie up present and future resources of the country in a series of programs that would be implemented in the next 4-year term," a statement signed by Horacio Serpa Uribe, national coordinator of Virgilio Barco Vargas' presidential campaign, stated. The statement said that with respectable reasons there are some who said that this is an attitude to favor the conservative candidate, thus casting doubt on the government's impartiality. The "home stretch" plan costs 150 billion pesos and it will be financed with resources from the national budget, foreign credits, and part of the revenues from the coffee bonanza.

The text of the declaration is as follows:

"With a great informational display, the national government has announced to the country that in the last 90 days of this administration it will do what it did not do in the previous 45 long months. Roads, bridges, supply centers, electrification projects, public buildings, aqueducts, and all kinds of other things are offered -- as is the usual style of the Conservative Party's presidential candidate -- to the people as if they were not tired of promises which have resulted in so much frustration for those who believed that housing and education for all, lower taxes, control on scarcity, good and inexpensive public services, social works, plans for the rehabilitation of the areas affected by violence, and thousands of other beauties were all true.

"The entire nation knows that nothing of what was announced will be done in such a short period, and it also knows that the intention behind this is to tie up the country's present and future resources in a series of programs that will be implemented in the next 4-year period, a clear circumstance that must serve the current administration -- without making such commitments -- to permit the new government to study and make a decision as to their timing and advisability.

"A new president will be elected in 6 months. The Liberal Party has enough reasons to believe that its candidate will get the people's vote on 25 May and that Virgilio Barco will be the next Colombian president. For this reason, the Liberal Party members distrust the government enthusiasm for last minute investments and commitment that will undoubtedly make future presidential tasks more difficult and will be an obstacle to the implementation of the platform of the new president which, in the case of the Liberal candidate, is a commitment with the people who have heard his economic and social proposals as well as his plans for changes, which they will support at the polls so that they will be implemented duly and faithfully."

Horacio Serpa Uribe -- national coordinator of the presidential campaign.

ARMY, FARC LEADERS DISPUTE TRUCE VIOLATIONS

PA301639 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 26 Apr 86 pp 1-A, 8-B

[Quotation marks as published]

[Excerpt] Colombian Army Commander General Rafael Samudio Molina reported that various FARC [Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia] fronts continue to violate the truce despite having signed an agreement with the government to extend its duration. He criticized the fact that FARC is acting as middleman in the resolution of kidnapping cases. Samudio made the statements only 2 days after Defense Minister General Miguel Vega Uribe reported truce violations by various FARC units that continue to blackmail and kidnap people.

Samudio and other top military leaders attended the 50th anniversary of the founding of the Infantry School in Usaquen, where he unveiled plaques at the Soldiers monument, and presided over an imposing military parade also attended by Cauca Governor Colonel Victor Gomez Gomez, retired. The Army commander strongly criticized the document that FARC sent to the Peace Commission, warning the government that "the enemies of peace must be set straight" so that the peace process may be a success.

FARC Writes Belisario Betancur

FARC warned President Belisario Betancur about the risk of civil war because the truce agreements are being violated, urging him to "set straight the enemies of democratic peace." The self-styled secretary general of FARC, which maintains that it continues to honor the agreements signed with the government, sent Betancur a letter indicating that the outbreak of generalized hostilities "is the goal of those who are intent on preventing national reconciliation." What follows is the text of that letter.

President Belisario Betancur, Narino Palace, Bogota

Mr President:

We address this note with Colombia's loftiest interests foremost in our minds to warn you that the enemies of peace are yielding no quarter in their attempts to destroy the cease-fire agreement that you, we, and the democratic forces have so arduously worked on. We acknowledge that the current peace process must make headway amid the persistent confrontation between those of us who are sincerely pursuing democratic peace and those who staunchly oppose it. However, the tolerant posture adopted toward those who are obsessively torpedoing peace efforts is increasing to an alarming extent the risk of a generalized conflict.

Sir: We firmly believe that you are not informed thoroughly on the current situation of war in the country and the fact that the government, Army and FARC's peasants and fighters have agreed to a cease-fire. There have been more than 21 clashes with the 4th Front since Holy Week in the area of Remedios, in northwest Antioquia Department. The Army and the 17th Front have clashed in Cordoba. In Santander in the area of Landazuri, La Belleza, and Socorrito, not only have there been clashes with the 23d Front, which was attacked inside its own camp, but the population is kept in virtual concentration camps. In Arauca there are clashes with our 19th Front. A counterinsurgency operation began in the Sierra Nevada de Santa Marta, we were told. Yesterday there were clashes with the 7th and 1st Fronts in Mapiripan and Meta, while a counterinsurgency operation began in eastern Tolima, which, as the country is aware, is a sensitive area because actions there jeopardize the security of the FARC General Staff.

The current juncture is obviously explosive. There are many areas where hostilities are taking place, and trouble spots are becoming more numerous. There is a climate of terror in the cities, where executions are commonplace and new paramilitary groups are cropping up, killing hoodlums as well as popular leaders. Mr President: The enemies of democracy must be set straight if we want to prevent a civil war in Colombia, which is the goal of those who are intent on preventing national reconciliation. With regard to FARC, we will continue to honor the agreements. In that spirit we have sent invitations for dialogues with the presidential candidatres, His Holiness Pope John Paul II, and with you, sir, because we are sparing no efforts to achieve the consolidation of the peace process.

Truly yours,

Manuel Marulanda Velez, Jacobo Arenas, Alfonso Cano, Raul Reyes, Timoleon Jimenez.

La Uribe, 23 April 1986.

STROESSNER SAID PREPARING FOR EXILE IN TAIWAN

PY301354 Buenos Aires TELAM in Spanish 0216 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Corrientes, 29 Apr (TELAM) -- Paraguayan exiles in Corrientes this afternoon stated that Paraguay is reportedly negotiating an international agreement with Taiwan by which Paraguayan President Alfredo Stroessner could take refuge in that Asian nation soon. The Paraguayan exiles stated that the treaty with Taiwan will be ratified before August or September 1986, because General Stroessner has scheduled a tour through that Asian nation for November.

The Paraguayan exiles explained that the above-mentioned agreement will provide for the exemption of penal accountabilitits between the two countries, allowing Stroessner and some of his aides to live in exile in Taiwan. The sources referred to recent opposition protests, the first in Paraguay in many decades, including such violent actions as the killing of medical student Rodolfo Gonzalez by the police. The sources added that these actions have caused fear and astonishment in the government, and Stroessner knows that the possibilities of living in exile in most civilized countries are closing. The government's anxiety is apparent in the actions of several officials charged with criminal actions, who are negotiating the sale of their property and stocks. There are cases where the deals have been closed with a 30-percent loss, the sources concluded.

HOY CALLS FOR INVESTIGATION OF U.S. ENVOY

PY301416 Asuncion HOY in Spanish 30 Apr 86 p 10

[Editorial: "Suspicious Behavior," by newspaper owner Humberto Dominguez Dibb]

[Text] Serious doubts have arisen in some sectors about U.S. Ambassador Clyde Taylor's behavior since he arrived in Paraguay. In fact, it has been pointed out that his presence at meetings held by political and social groups linked to the opposition is quite strange and unexplainable. The fact that there have been some acts of social agitation just after Mr Taylor assumed his post is noteworthy ands suggestive.

What are Mr Taylor's intentions? What is his real motivation? What does he have to do with all these facts? Is there a direct relationship that can clarify his objective? It is hard to believe that the great northern nation can be involved in the activities that are attributed to its ambassador, activities that are inappropriate for his diplomatic status. It is not possible to believe that the State Department wants to stir up the people and promote disorder and political and social anarchy, which is a breeding ground for extremism.

The government must completely clarify what is happening and unveil any machinations, if there are any. If there are not any, it must establish the responsibilities of those who might be illegally acting against the sound principles of public order and social peace, openly seeking to impair the institutional life of a friendly country.

All these facts call for a comprehensive, conclusive investigation. The doubts assailing the representative sectors of our country, which have been affected by a behavior that they regard as obvious intervention, cannot remain unresolved. Such sectors believe that an ambassador should represent his country before the government, that he should not become a dispenser of merits or discredit, and that he should not attend meetings that challenge a government that was legally established in accordance with the Constitution, for which the people freely voted in the 1967 Constituent Assembly.

The same sectors maintain that the behavior of Ambassador Taylor is at least suspicious. In our continent, our country has long been a staunch defender of the principles of nonintervention and the self-determination of the peoples. Intervention, or the predominance and the hegemony of the strong over the weak, has been overcome in international relations. Marshall Lopez [Paraguayan hero] fought and died defending the principle of nonintervention in the internal affairs of other countries. Therefore, this is a traditional position in our foreign policy. Consequently now that we are in a difficult situation that is testing the strength of our convictions, our position of noninterference must be stronger than ever -- as a testimonial to those Paraguayans who gave their own lives in defense of that principle in 1870.

ARCHBISHOP ISSUES MESSAGE ON STRIKE, VIOLENCE

PY260223 Asuncion LA TARDE in Spanish 25 Apr 86 p 11

[Message from Asuncion Archbishop Ismael Rolon, released on 25 April in Asuncion]

[Text] There are events, not only recent ones, which include the violent and mysterious death of a young law student at the Asuncion National University that are causing distress to the whole nation, not just the capital city. The church -- bishops, priests, and laymen -- cannot and will not remain silent in the face of a situation that is clearly detrimental to human rights, justice, truth, and wholesome patriotism. We belong to the people and we are servants of the people.

1. Empowered by the Constitution (Article 76 in its entirety), employees, nurses, and physicians at the Hospital de Clinicas decided to go on strike on 24 April, thus exercising a right guaranteed by Article 110 of the Constitution, to stage a peaceful public demonstration in support of their request, for dignified and just salaries, that have been submitted to government authorities. As they marched, the public applauded as a sign of approval.

2. The authorities deployed police forces armed with clubs and other weapons through various parts of the city to impede the demonstration with threats of violence. And in fact there was violence -- tear-gas bombs and arrests in some places.

3. According to the testimony of photographs, witnesses, and reports from the media that covered the demonstration, the demonstration had a peaceful and orderly nature. It was not a march of rabble-rousers, but an orderly, disciplined, and idealistic expression of the rights of the workers, students, and professionals.

Conclusions

1. It is not right to brand as subversive and communist any demonstration of citizens who are exercising their constitutional rights. 2. We believe that the police mission is to preserve public order, to provide personal security, to protect property, and to prevent crimes (Article 45 of the Constitution), not to intimidate the people or to repress with violence any public demonstration of protest, or in support of a just petition. Police action should be restricted to preventing disorder and crimes.

3. We censure the indiscriminate use of violence to silence just demands instead of offering a solution to the problem or giving assurance that a solution will be sought.

4. We ask the appropriate authorities for the prompt release of those who have been arrested for this or similar causes, in compliance with Article 59 of the Constitution.

5. We call on the population, and especially on the authorities, to act with calm, good sense, justice, and mutual respect.

6. Violence begets violence, thus setting off an escalation of violence that solves nothing. Dialogue and agreement must always be the chosen way for Christians.

As pastors who love their people, we beg the Lord to give us His peace, we trust our countrymen will be able to live in peace, and reaffirm our hope that the road to understanding and unity will be found.

FRG DELIVERS 'SHARP PROTEST' ON ARRESTS

LD291055 Hamburg DPA in German 1010 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Bonn, 29 Apr (DPA) -- The Federal Government made it very clear on Tuesday that it will "not accept" Paraguayan action toward German citizens and diplomats. A "sharp protest" was conveyed to the Paraguayan ambassador in Bonn who was summoned to the Foreign Office on Tuesday about the maltreatment and temporary arrest of a German television team and a German diplomat from the embassy in Asuncion who was acompanying it. The Foreign Office made it clear on Tuesday that it is neither willing to accept the treatment of the journalists nor the violation of diplomatic immunity. It awaited a clear response from the Paraguayan Government.

On Monday The German ambassador in Asuncion was ordered to protest against the incident to the Paraguayan Foreign Ministry. The television journalists and the German diplomat were beaten up and taken away in handcuffs during a rally in Asuncion conducted by opponents of the regime.

SALVADORAN OFFICIALS, FMLN MEET AT GARCIA'S HOME

PY281630 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1545 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Lima, 28 Apr (EFE) -- President Alan Garcia is acting as a mediator between the Salvadoran Government and the Salvadoran guerrillas to try to obtain peace. The Lima newspaper LA REPUBLICA today published an article stating that representatives of Salvadoran President Jose Napoleon Duarte and the FMLN met on 27 April at President Alan Garcia's home for negotiations. Although the meeting lasted a long time, nothing was revealed about the discussions because they were strictly confidential.

LA REPUBLICA states that the FMLN was represented by Ruben Zamora and the Salvadoran Government by Culture Minister Julio Alberto Rey Prendes. About 12 people participated in the meeting. According to sources quoted by the newspaper, the meeting "was not friendly. The two parties are deeply divided." Labor Minister Carlos Blancas was the one who received the representatives of the two Salvadoran sides at President Garcia's home. LA REPUBLICA says that President Garcia was also at home on the occasion of the meeting, but he just greeted the participants and left the house immediately. It is probable that more meetings between the Salvadoran Government and the guerrillas will take place in Lima, the newspaper reported.

GARCIA MEETS NICARAGUAN DEPUTY FOREIGN MINISTER

PY010219 Paris AFP in Spanish 0053 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] Lima, 30 Apr (AFP) -- An official source has reported that President Alan Garcia today received at Government Palace Nicaraguan Deputy Foreign Minister Victor Tinoco. Garcia reasserted his decision to work toward the success of the Central American peace process. Tinoco stated that he and the president discussed the possibility of a number of meetings among Latin American leaders to find a political and negotiated solution to the Central American problem within the framework of the Contadora Group. Tinoco added that things are getting more difficult in the region, mentioning the holding of three simultaneous military maneuvers around Nicaragua with the participation of U.S. forces among the factors that contribute to make the situation more difficult. Tinoco stated that the U.S. assistance to the Nicaraguan contras is a basic obstacle to peace in the region. It is very difficult to negotiate with a pistol against your head, as President Ronald Reagan wants, Tinoco concluded.

GOVERNMENT SEEKS RENEGOTIATION OF DEBT REPAYMENT

PY301405 Paris AFP in Spanish 1850 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Lima, 29 Apr (AFP) -- Deputy Economy Minister Gustavo Saberbein today announced that Peru will propose to its creditors the renegotiation of the $14-billion foreign debt with realistic payment schedules, interest rates, and grace period, which will allow Peru to reconstruct its economy within a period of 5 or more years. The official, who also heads the foreign debt committee, made this announcement after Peru made a good-faith payment of $17.7 million on 28 April to the foreign private banking sector in New York to amortize the delayed payments, which amount to approximately $450 million.

With the payment made in April, Peru has paid a total of $68.7 million on its delayed debt. On 14 April the IMF received $35 million (30 million in special drawing rights) and on 16 April the United States received $16 million ($8 million to amortize the military debt and $8 million to USAID). Reliable sources have explained that, due to Saberbein's announcement, Peru will propose during the new negotiations a 25-year period and an annual interest rate of 3 percent to its 280 creditor banks and to its suppliers. For the governments that make up the Paris Club and the creditor agencies, the formula will presumably mean a refinancing jof the debt over a 30-year period, a 7-year grace period and an annual interest rate of 2 percent. The sources also revealed that negotiations will begin in May or June 1986.

Saberbein also explained that the payments made during April are the first ones to be made since this government came to power just over 9 months ago and that they have been under the policy of servicing the foreign debt to the equivalent of 10 percent of its export revenues. He stated that the payments were made after two unilateral postponements, which placed Peru on the list of countries with a value-impaired debt, and he stressed that at this time, the idea is not to make this type of refinancing a permanent policy.

He reiterated that Peru will remain faithful to its principle of not paying more than 10 percent of the value of its exports to retire its debt, and that the short-term payments on the foreign debt are not included in this percentage. These short-term payments are included in another percentage of the total payment of the foreign debt. The deputy minister did not comment on another report indicating that if the international prices of Peru's expoerts improve there will probably be an increase in debt payments to 15 percent of the value of the exports.

Saberbein also stated that Peru has been able to renew payments to its creditors due to a significant recovery that has been achieved within the program of economic reactivation undertaken by Alan Garcia'a government. He said that the economy grew by 3.6 percent during the first quarter of 1986, compared with the October-December quarter of 1985, and that in an annual projection, inflation has decreased from 280 percent at the end of July 1985 to approximately 25 percent during the last 3 months. He said that although the decrease in the international price of oil will reduce Peruvian exports this year by $250 million, $260 million extra revenue has been achieved due to increased prices of coffee and fishmeal.

HIGH COMMAND TO MEET WITH CHILEAN COUNTERPARTS

PY301525 Paris AFP in Spanish 0233 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Lima, 29 Apr (AFP) - The Foreign Ministry announced tonight that the Peruvian and Chilean Armed Forces High Commands will meet from 5 to 7 May as a part of efforts to achieve a regional agreement to limit arms purchases. It added that this first round of negotiations between the Peruvian and Chilean Armed Forces chiefs will be held in Lima in keeping with the agreement of the Lima and Santiago governments. The Peruvian Foreign Ministry adds that these negotiations are part of a gradual and continuous process aimed at achieving understandings with the ultimate objective of strengthening reciprocal confidence.

Observers noted that these negotiations between the Peruvian and Chilean high commands were agreed upon during the negotiations that Peruvian Foreign Minister Allan Wagner and Chilean Foreign Minister Jaime del Valle held at the end of 1985 in Africa and Lima. It was also noted that in his inaugural speech of 28 July 1985, Peruvian President Alan Garcia announced his decision to promote a regional agreement for arms limitation and that this initiative was favorably received by Chilean President Augusto Pinochet.

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS U.S., FRENCH NUCLEAR TESTS

PY301444 Paris AFP in Spanish 0121 GMT 30 Par 86

[Text] Lima, 29 Apr (AFP) -- An official communique issued tonight by the Foreign Ministsry notes that the Peruvian Government has expressed its categorical protest for recent nuclear tests by the United States and France. Moreover, Peru also expressed concern over the announcement by the USSR that it would resume nuclear testing if the United States did not stop testing. The Peruvian protest concerns the nuclear tests by the United States in April in its own territory and those by France at the Mururoa Atoll in the South Pacific.

The Foreign Ministry notes that in addition to causing serious ecological damage, these nuclear tests prove that there is an escalation of the nuclear arms race. It adds that Peru has proposed the need to implement an international moratorium on nuclear tests, and that it promotes the calling of a conference to amend the 1963 Moscow Treaty so that the partial prohibition of nuclear tests by this treaty also encompasses underground tests. The communique notes that Peru continues its actions in all international forums, particularly in the United Nations and the Nonaligned Movement, to achieve a complete ban on nuclear tests throughout the world for all time.

OFFICIALS BRIEF LUSINCHI ON INCREASED OIL EXPORTS

PA301623 Caracas Television Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] The board of directors of Petroven and the energy and mines minister briefed President Jaime Lusinchi on the state of the Venezuelan oil market. Our reporter Elsy Barrueta has more details.

[Begin recording] [Barrueta] Following the meeting, Energy and Mines Minister Arturo Hernandez Grisanti spoke to reporters in the halls of the Miraflores Palace. He said that during the meeting with President Lusinchi, the latter was informed of the currnt status of the oil market. It was reported that there has been an increase in our country's oil production and exports.

[Hernandez Grisanti] We have surpassed our export goal, which is 1.41 million barrels [a day]. We are currently exporting 1.415 million barrels. Therefore, we have recovered from the slump we experienced during the first days of the year. Regarding our production, the figures are also high. We are producing 1.57 million barrels of crude, and approximately between 120,000 and 125,000 barrels of gas condensates.

[Barrueta] Before leaving, Minister Hernandez Grisanti recalled that there will be no special OPEC meeting, adding that the ministers will meet again at the next regular conference, which will take place in approximately 2 months. [end recording]

ALASEI EXAMINES ROLE OF OPPOSITION, ECONOMY

FL291802 Bridgetown CANA in English 1623 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Caracas, April 28, CANA-ALASEI -- Dogged by the refinancing of 90 per cent of its foreign debt and the abrupt fall in oil prices, the dynamic policies of Venezuela are turning tense and hesitant, according to the Latin American News Agency ALASEI. One of the characteristics of this situation was said to be the new role of the opposition, made public by way of statements, press releases, meetings, resolutions and even street demonstrations, organized by the main parties not forming the government -- the Social Christian COPEI and the Movement to Socialism (MAS).

Up to now, said ALASEI, the opposition has played a waiting game, leaving the political developments in the country to the government and its party, which won the last elections with a majority of over 56 per cent. Nevertheless, since the signing of the accords to refinance the national debt in February and the debacle in oil prices, the opposition has taken on new vigour.

A series of events has made this evident. Chief among these was the putting down of a small demonstration by Social Christian youth; the discovery of five corpses in a well in Zulia State, throwing suspicion on the police; official difficulty in explaining the scope of the contingency clause in the refinancing agreement, and the problems in the petroleum sector. Add all this to internal wrangling by the political parties for control of the party machinery, and nomination of a presidential candidate for 1988.

In all this, the leader of the party, Rafael Caldera, has taken up the cause of the opposition, making a public call to be strong without being irresponsible, accusing the government of keeping its arms folded in the crisis, and of making the mistake of accepting the presidency of OPEC at a time when the U.S. Government was boasting of having broken the back of the organization.

A similar position has been taken by Eduardo Fernandez, general secretary of COPEI, and, along with Cladera, aspirant for this party's presidential nomination. He asserts that the opposition will be firm, vigorous, and popular to be assured of regaining power. For its part, the Movement to Socialism thinks the government is bogged down by conservative thinking that has killed the election proposal to start the transition towards social democracy.

The ex-candidate of the left, Jose Vicente Rangel, has been consistent in affirming that the executive has not been able to explain to the country the extent of the crisis, the steps taken, or the refinancing. In these uncomfortable circumstances, President Jaime Lusinchi on two occasions addressed the nation, warning that the situation is serious, that there are no alternatives but to face it, that revenue has fallen, that the contingency clause will be invoked with the creditor banks, since the all-important contractual agreement remained intact. He said OPEC will once again dominate developments in the oil market, once the present unfavourable circumstances fade into the background.

The government is trying to bring about an increase in productivity, and announced that agriculture, which had remained at a stand-still, grew six per cent in 1985. In addition, there is a project involving investment of 400,500 million (U.S.) dollars in agriculture, transport, communications, urban development, industry, and tourism.

For the moment, and with the latest failure of the OPEC meeting, indications are that the recession caused by the fall in oil prices will be prolonged and that, in Venezuela, the opposition will gain in strength, making for a more intense political battle, ALASEI said... It appears that the government will try to weather the storm with revenue gained from renegotiation of agreements, fiscal adjustments, and increase in productivity.

BRIEFS

TRAINING AIRCRAFT FROM BRAZIL -- Division General Raul Fernandez Hernandez, commander general of the Air Force, announced in Maracay yesterday that the 30 Tucano airplanes acquired from Brazil will arrive in the country in June. He said that the Tucano will be a training aircraft for cadet personnel. [Summary] [Caracas EL UNIVERSAL in Spanish 18 Apr 86 p 1 PA]

GROUP ISSUES COMMUNIQUE ON U.S. EMBASSY BOMB

PA301822 Mexico City UNOMASUNO in Spanish 28 Apr 86 p 12

[Text] An anonymous telephone call was received at UNOMASUNO at 0025. It was the same male voice with a South American accent that the day before yesterday warned about the frustrated bomb attack against the U.S. Embassy and attributed it to the "Simon Bolivar Internationalist Command." He asked that this newspaper report to the Mexican people its objectives through a document that he left near the newspaper's installations. The following is the text -- original wording has not been changed.

To the Mexican people

To the U.S. public opinion

To the international public opinion

The placement of the car bomb in the U.S. Embassy in Mexico was in response to the terrorist and genocidal aggression that the U.S. Government carried out against the sister people's Republic of Libya, by indiscriminately bombing the cities of Tripoli and Benghazi with the very clear objective of annihilating the leader of the Libyan people, Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. This criminal and genocidal action of U.S. terrorism caused the death of hundreds of Libyan citizens, men, women, children, and old people, including the 15-month old daughter of the leader of the Libyan people.

With this military action we have shown, on the one hand, the vulnerability of the main U.S. political target in Mexico, and on the other hand, that the revolutionaries are no longer willing to tolerate the arrogant and interventionist militaristic policy of the United States. We are not willing to tolerate a new Grenada or a new Santo Domingo with impunity.

Today, the shameless aggression against the Libyan people has had a deep impact on the peoples and revolutionaries of the world, fervent and sincere lovers of peace, progress, democracy, and social justice. The clearest demonstration of this has been the political and military actions of repudiation, self-defense, and counteroffensive against Yankee terrorism in various parts of the world.

If the U.S. rulers do not change this terrorist and genocidal policy and begin to respect the just and inalienable rights of the peoples to their full self-determination, all of the U.S. economic political, and military interests in the world will become military targets of the revolutionaries and they will be attacked -- even in the U.S. cities -- in exercise of the legitimate right to self-defense of the world's peoples who are exploited and oppressed by imperialism. We revolutionaries can never use the same terrorist and genocidal methods of Yankee imperialism. Our military objective was not directed against the Mexican policemen guarding the embassy and much less against the Mexican civilian population and workers working in the construction of the Maria Isabel Sheraton Hotel. Our military objective was exclusively directed against the Yankee interests. In addition, we clarify that the car in which the bomb was placed for our military operation was not stolen. The vehicle was bought on Sunday, 20 April, from an auto dealer.

Our "Simon Bolivar" anti-imperialist command adopted the firm decision of notifying the Mexican press about our action so that the zone could be evacuated in order to prevent innocent victims in case the car bomb exploded before the Mexican police or the Yankees were able to deactivate it.

We estimate that the explosive was deactivated 5 or 10 minutes before it would explode. The bomb contained 20 kg of plastic explosives, 6 electrical fuses, and 15 kg of steel flechettes. The expansive wave of the explosive would have caused material damage to a minimum radius of 40 meters and the flechettes were precisely aimed toward the Yankee embassy with an effective range of 150 meters. The car bomb was prepared so that at the moment of the explosion the back would break off, permitting the flechettes to directly and effectively hit our target. The Mexican public should think well about the effects of the policy of Yankee imperialism.

If the Yankees can militarily attack Libya which is located so far away in northern Africa, what will happen to Mexico, which has a 3,000 km-long border with the United States, an exorbitant debt, and a great economic dependence which Yankee imperialism takes advantage of to pressure the Mexican Government so that it will modify its traditionally progressive foreign policy. It is also publicly known that the U.S. diplomats maintain links with the most reactionary political sectors of this country, thus barefacedly intervening in Mexico's internal affairs.

The U.S. public opinion has a great responsibility to the world's peoples in the commitment to peace. No country in the world, no matter how powerful, has the right to intervene in the internal affairs of other peoples no matter how weak these might be or appear to be. All peoples have the full right to chose their own destiny and their own forms of government and society without any foreign interference.

Because of these reasons, we revolutionaries and peoples of the world must halt, by every possible means, Reagan's militaristic and interventionist policy in Central America and seek the best political solution to the conflict in the region on the basis of the peoples' just and inalienable right to self-determination.

And if all of us were capable of uniting so that our blows would be stronger and more accurate and so that the assistance of every type to the peoples who are struggling will be even more effective, how great and near would be the future!

A stop to Reagan's terrorist policy! For every terrorist action against Libya, a thousand revolutionary actions against the Yankees! Yankees out of Central America! To victory always...we will win!

"Simon Bolivar" anti-imperialist command

Mexico City, 27 April 1986

DE LA MADRID ON ADMINISTRATIVE DECENTRALIZATION

PA261503 Mexico City EL DIA in Spanish 18 Apr 86 p 3

[Excerpt] Guadalajara, Jalisco, 17 Apr -- President Miguel de la Madrid said here today that the nation's decentralization means politically more democracy; economically, a more balanced and productive development; and socially, a more united, strong and supportive people. While chairing a meeting on administrative decentralization and simplification, he added that to decentralize the nation is at this time a unifying and transforming axis of the Mexican society. It is a development strategy and a government policy. It is a government responsibility, he said, to promote this movement, but society must set the pace, point out the methods, and list priorities. Consequently, decentralization is not a unilateral central government act, but the result of promotion, commitment and agreement with the state of Jalisco.

When referring to the comprehensive development agreement which he signed with Governor Enrique Alvarez del Castillo at the end of the ceremony, he said that among other subjects, it includes a series of agreements in which the government decentralizes functions of its own offices and procedures within the state government. He reiterated that this agreement is an example of how we would like modern Mexican federalism to function: as a federalism that is the result of the maturity of our historic evolution and is soundly based on dialogue, negotiation, and agreement, and that relinquishes authoritarian models that are no longer compatible with modern Mexican society.

Decentralization, De la Madrid said, tends to strengthen the country even more, and he added that today's Mexicans do not associate centralization with strength. The strength of modern Mexican society is decentralization; strength is equilibrium, federalism and municipalism, he said. This structural change is also an example of the great vitality of Mexican society, he said, and he maintained: "Despite the economic crisis, we have not stopped working. Despite the economic crisis, we continue to revolutionize society, because history is revolutionary and Mexico's destiny is revolutionary."

REACTION TO CONSPIRACY ALLEGATION CONTINUES

Arias Calls for Evidence

PA300357 Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 29 Apr 86 pp A 1, A 12

[Excerpts] Ricardo Arias Calderon, president of the Christian Democratic Party [PDC] has concurred with the views expressed by Msgr Marcos Gregorio McGrath regarding the "Lieutenants Declaration." Msgr McGrath said that specific names and evidence must be presented whenever serious accusations are made.

Regarding this issue, Arias Calderon added he believes the archbishop's statement is a commentary by the country's highest religious and moral authority "to warn the government that to make such serious accusations without giving names or presenting evidence violates fundamental ethical principles and, in essence, human rights, that is, man's right to his dignity."

Skepticism Toward Plot Scored

PA301743 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 29 Apr 86 p 4

["Political Coliseum" column by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua: "Let Us Unmask the Traitors"]

[Text] I deliberately waited several days before commenting on the "Lieutenants Declaration," which I describe as an answer to the defeatist efforts by an archreactionary sector of Panamanians, who move within the circles of their equals in Washington and whose most visible representative is Ambassador Arthur Davis, who has not waited very long before carrying out his original plan to destabilize Panama.

I wanted to observe, listen to, and analyze the reaction of those who have been the spokesmen of that antifatherland attitide before making an in-depth analysis of the facts, arguments, and objectives of the people who have been carrying out the ignoble task of treason against the fatherland.

Nevertheless, I have been very interested in the fact that the opposition's spokesmen have only tried to ridicule the lieutenants and that they hastily described the serious statement made last Thursday before President Delvalle as a "spectacle." In a simplistic manner they have tried to undermine the importance of their crawling [arrastramiento] and shamelessly speak of an "alleged conspiracy." I believe, and I do not believe I am the only one who does, that the time has come to unmask the ultra-fascists, stating their names and surnames, their activities, their goals, and the price they demand of their old Yankee bosses for destroying Panama's liberation process.

Before beginning that task, which will take several days, today I will quote two distinguished colleagues who have put their finger on the sore spot. The great Jorge "Huilo" Ramirez, undoubtedly a nationalist patriot, tells us that "these new members of the opposition have sought in the United States the worst allies that a political group coud ever find, among them the octogenarian Senator Jesse Helms, scorned by his own countrymen because of his extreme right-wing ideas that border on Nazi-fascist doctrines and whose only contribution to the antipatriotic cause is the concentrated hatred he has in his hear for all things Panamanian."

The other newsman I will quote is Adolfo Benedetti, who, upon referring to the People's Action Party, which rejected the "pilgrimage of Panamanians to Washington and other capitals as a way out of the anguish," wrote that the "opposition party's position undoubtedly reflects the attitude of a large number of Panamanians who, despite their ill will toward the present regime, reject the policy of surrender and submission to their spiritual bosses who are in the U.S. Congress and important enclaves of the Reaganite administration, before whom they must prostrate themselves like lackeys, just as the Defense Forces lieutenants stated on Thursday at the Presidency."

Tomorrow we will begin to unmask the traitors....

Columnist 'Unmasks' Conspirators

PA302010 Panama City EL SIGLO in Spanish 30 Apr 86 p 4

["Political Coliseum" column by Baltazar Renan Aizpurua: "Traitors"]

[Text] Yesterday I said that the time has come to unmask the traitors who are trying to destroy the liberation process in Panama, and I began by pointing out that the conspirators have in U.S. Ambassador Arthur Davis the most visible representative of the group of archreactionaries who control power in the United States.

Davis, who presumes that in Panama he can use the language he used in Asuncion, capital of Paraguay, when addressing dictator Stroessner, has retained Ruben Arosemena as a political analyst at the U.S. mission. According to the theories of Lombroso [an Italian doctor who believed criminals should be looked upon as sick and not guilty], Arosemena would be described as harmless [vestidor de santos], but he serves in the wings as a link between the conspirators. It is well known that Arosemena is a political-ideological leader of Panamanian Christian Democracy.

Apostolic Nuncio Jose Sebastian Laboa is a U.S. ally in the destabilization of the country. He has invited members of the opposition, Panamanian diplomats, and U.S. Embassy political secretaries to several meetings at this headquarters.

Therefore, it comes as no surprise that the "Opus Dei" and extreme rightwing U.S. Catholic Church representatives -- whose top leaders are in Chicago, where part of the funds and false documents that have been used by some U.S. media have been distributed -- have joined the anti-Panamanian conspiracy.

In the course of this series of articles I will report and analyze in-depth the anti-Panamanian conspiracy -- which is not new -- so that after our country's public has become aware of the serious danger that hovers over our nation's territorial integrity, we can confront the enemies of the fatherland wherever they want, to present proof of their treason.

When we become fully involved in the analysis of the destabilization plans we will see how economic and political interests are linked to one another. Why Christian Democracy International sends donations through Mr Federico Humbert's "Banco General" to the personal accounts of Ricardo Arias Calderon and Guillermo Cochez. Why the party must report to the Christian Democratic parties of the FRG, Venezuela, and Italy, where Michele Sindona was murdered only a few weeks ago.

Sindona was sentenced to life in prison and had a "dossier" of the management of funds abroad, including Panama.

I will discuss these issues in depth on Monday, 4 May....

VASQUEZ ON DEBT REFINANCING, ECONOMIC SITUATION

PA282027 Paris AFP in Spanish 0213 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Panama City, 27 Apr (AFP) -- Planning and Economic Policy Minister Ricaurte Vasquez reported today that commerical banks granted Panama 2 more years to refinance its debt, thus making available approximately $60 million for additional credits in this country.

The official told AFP that the financial availabilities [disponibilidades] that should have expired on 31 March were formally extended until 31 December 1986. This, he noted, will give international organizations time to conclude their negotiations to permit the disbursement of parallel loans from commercial banks.

In addition, he referred to the Panamanian economic situation, which has shown a faster growth rate in the last quarter of 1985 than in the past 4 years, thus showing an increase in bank deposits. For the first time, he said, the per capita income of Panamanians -- $2,100 per year -- has increased at the same pace as the population growth.

Moreover, he predicted that with the normalization of public spending, the stabilization of financial markets with lower interest rates, and the drop in oil prices, "great" possibilities for reactivation in the private sector and the country's economic recovery are appearing.

BRIEFS

NEW AMBASSADORS -- Three new ambassadors presented their credentials to President Eric Arturo Delvalle on 16 April. They are: Lamine de Sougoule of the Republic of Guinea, Ridzwan Bin Haji Dzafir of the Republic of Singapore, and Mrs Margaret Bryan of the UK. [Summary] [Panama City LA ESTRELLA DE PANAMA in Spanish 17 Apr 87 PA]

COSTA RICA

GUTIERREZ CALLS FOR CHANGES IN CONSTITUTION

PA300301 San Jose Radio Reloj in Spanish 1200 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] During his last news conference as a member of President Mongé's cabinet, Foreign Minister Carlos Jose Gutierrez said that the country's Constitution is in need of very important changes. The Constitution of 1949 was obsolete from the outset, since the one drafted in 1871 served as its model; the Constitution needs certain changes, Foreign Minister Gutierrez said. Gutierrez said he advocates the formation of a constituent assembly, but that, faced with the impossibility of convening one, it is necessary to make those changes through legislative amendments. Describing the Costa Rican system as too reluctant to accept plebiscites or referendums, Foreign Minister Gutierrez, who is a professor of constitutional law, said it is obvious that the Costa Rican Constitution needs to be revised

The Constitution of 1949, which was based not on the draft presented by the members of the constituent assembly, but on the Constitution of 1871, has errors that must now be corrected. It accepts plebiscites only for changing the Constitutions of the provinces; therefore it is not possible to resort to that system to support several important projects, although Foreign Minister Gutierrez believes that such a system is needed in Costa Rica.

EL SALVADOR

DUARTE ON REY PRENDES-FDR TALKS IN LIMA

PA010025 San Salvador Canal Doce Television in Spanish 1900 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] President Jose Napoleon Duarte said today that a meeting in Lima of Culture and Communications Minister Adolfo Rey Prendes and FDR representatives was an initiative of the Christian Democratic Party. He also said that the guerrilla representatives deceived Peruvian President Alan Garcia.

[Begin recording] [Duarte] This government has always held and will continue to hold an open policy and a spirit of tolerance and harmony in the search for peace. We will be willing to hold a dialogue when the sectors up in arms join the country's democratic life. We do not, however, want tactical dialogues. We do not want any deceptions or lies which can disappoint the people. I feel it is very important to say that a meeting has been held in Peru. Those of the FDR or, rather, of the Social Christian Revolutionary Movement, MRSC, said they wanted to speak to us. Apparently they wanted to join the country's democratic process. This was a magnificent opportunity for them to open the door, join national life, and abandon violence.

[Unidentified reporter] Was this meeting convened through the party, as a guerrilla communique has said, or was it a government initiative?

[Duarte] No, it was convened through the party. However, since this is a very important decision for the country, it was up to the president of the Republic. The party has delegated such decisions to me. Therefore, this decision was mine, although the representatives acted on behalf of the party and not on behalf of the government. The party's political committee entrusted this to me because it had to be consistent with the government's overall program.

[Reporter] Are there any plans to convene more meetings like this?

[Duarte] Before I answer your question, let us analyze the results of this type of meeting. The Salvadoran people -- and I hope you journalists publish this complete -- will see for themselves that the guerrillas have reaffirmed their strategic objectives and have not been sincere. I repeat, I am willing to hold a sincere dialogue, not just a tactical dialogue. [end recording]

MEXICO'S EXCELSIOR INTERVIEWS PRESIDENT DUARTE

PA291729 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish 23 Apr 86 pp 1A, 10A

[All quotation marks as published]

[Part 1 of a report on an interview with President Jose Napoleon Duarte by reporter Regino Diaz Redondo in San Salvador on 22 April]

[Text] San Salvador, 22 Apr -- This is a country at war; I am walking on the razor's edge. The right and the left are against me because they do not want democracy. I am facing death squads and kidnappers, and I am fighting against an oligarchy and hitting it in the core of its power and absolute supremacy, President Jose Napoleon Duarte has stated passionately.

During the impassioned interview granted to EXCELSIOR at the presidential residence in San Salvador, Duarte states that he is "not a puppet" and that he does not "dictate, but convinces" in order to go from the dictatorial regime to the people's government, which is his "historic project."

A man accustomed to dealing with people, he arrives in his office in a hurry, walking firmly, somewhat late, but in high spirits and in a good mood.

This president seems to know where he is heading and what he wants. He seems to know his friends and his enemies. He talks and discusses with them, and confronts them in order to bring them around to his ideology.

"There is a permanent risk of a coup d'etat here. That is part of the struggle. The extremists are trying to push me, to throw me out, to destroy me, and to destabilize me," Duarte said, vigorously waving his left hand close to his head.

President Duarte is frank. "To attain my goal, I do not accept interference, not even from the United States. I need economic assistance; I cannot deny that and I need military aid, but I do not want a rightist dictatorship, or a military dictatorship, or communism. I am isolating those who struggle against me, and the militarymen agree with me on the development of this democratic process. They know it, understand it, and fight for it."

Yet President Duarte is willing to fight corruption and mismanagement among some Army members who have participated in the kidnapping and killing of prominent industrialists and have sponsored death squads. To this end, President Duarte has promoted new laws and initiated procedures for the trial of some militarymen.

He arrives in his office wearing a light blue suit but no tie. He tries to apologize... "Just a moment"...and walks toward the end of the room. He comes back and repeats... "Well no, I do not have one; I do not have a tie, I am sorry.

I am an engineer, and moreover, a field engineer, who was accustomed to being among the people, when I started my political career back in the sixties I decided to open my office to the humble people, and they arrived here in shirt-sleeves and straw hats. They felt uncomfortable when I received them wearing a tie. Shirt-sleeves were somewhat more natural. I have lived that way. Generally, I try not to wear a tie..."

[Diaz] But do you wear a tie when ambassadors visit you?

[Duarte] Well, then yes.

During the interview the power goes off repeatedly (there has been an act of sabotage against power installations).

[Diaz] Mr President, if your country receives aid from the United Ststes to fight the guerrillas, why can't Nicaragua obtain aid from other world powers?

[Duarte] I have nothing to do with that. That is to say, I need aid. If Mexico offers me that aid to solve my economic problems, I gladly accept it. If the United States offers me that aid, I also accept it, so long as that aid does not involve an intrusion in the historic project that I am developing, and that is where the basis of the problem is: I do not allow anyone -- and this includes the United States -- to come and try to destroy my historic project, which is to achieve democracy. I am struggling for democracy in this country, and I am walking forward without halting. Perhaps, some do not even understand my project, they do not comprehend it, but the evaluations show me -- I make constant evaluations -- that I am advancing and seeking the political contexts to do the things I have planned. But I cannot establish the political contexts on my own. I have to feed my people (he hits the table with his hand), to satisfy the people's needs. At this moment I obviously need aid, I cannot deny it. I need economic and military assistance to make the Armed Forces more professional.

"...Thus, I cannot get involved in the quarrel between them (the United States and Nicaragua), right? What would happen to me then? I believe this is a matter of being pragmatic. You were talking to me about pragmatism, and it is a pragmatic decision not to get involved in that quarrel because if Nicaragua is going to continue supporting the [Salvadoran] guerrillas and Cuba also, and I have no support, what will happen to my country? What will happen to my people who say: We do not want communism; we want democracy. We do not want either a rightist dictatorship or a military dictatorship. What will happen to these people if they are unable to defend that democracy?... Well they would fall into communism, or militarism or the ultraright or ultraleft extremes, however, we have come between the two extremes, and we are trying to isolate them to open a new political context that cannot be attained without assistance. That is my plan."

[Diaz] Who supports the right wing?

[Duarte] The right wing is supported... Have you ever read the Salvadoran newspapers? I invite you to read all the country's papers, from September on, for example, and look for a single issue that does not attack us, just one. See if you can find it.

For example, you have adopted economic measures, because they were needed in your country, haven't you? In Mexico there must be those who favor them and those who are against them, and they probably write about those measures respectively. Here, I have had to adopt economic measures that everybody opposes.

[Diaz] How did you make out?

[Duarte] Notice that there have been no dead people on the streets or any repression. Why? Because the people are aware of what we are doing. It could not have been done otherwise.

[Diaz] Is there censorship in the country?

[Duarte] No, there has been no censorship in this country since I assumed the presidency, including the earlier period when the Junta was in power. Amidst a most violent revolution, you cannot find a single case of censorship of any newspaper. That tells you how difficult it is to carry out a democratic process. If you look at the situation positively, we have to evaluate the progress made in the quality of the process. The other day, the Red Cross director, the one who is leaving, came to visit me. He brought me the annual report. I took it and asked him: Is this all? "Well yes, this is all," he told me. It was approximately 25 pages long. I said to him: Quite different from those of 1980 and 1981, aren't they? "Yes"...because those were this big (the president makes a gesture with his arms extended) and this is a small one. Look here, he told me, this is a fact: "This is the country that most respects international laws on human rights.

"...He surprised me and I told him that I could not repeat that because no one would believe me, but that I was satisfied because in this country, 25 years ago, the oligarchy totally controlled the economy. Today it is not so, and they are unhappy about that.

[Diaz] How will you deal with the problem of bringing the militarymen who have subsidized death squads or participated in kidnappings to trial?

[Duarte] You are seeing it already. At this moment we are investigating. We are investigating five kidnappings and we just handed over the first results of our findings to the judge. It is a fact. I am not telling you how am I going to deal with that problem, but how I am dealing with it now.

[Diaz] Do you think you will be able to continue?

[Duarte] Perhaps the question you are trying to ask is what the position of the militarymen is in this regard?

[Diaz] That is correct.

[Duarte] The militarymen totally agree with me. The level of the military's conceptualization of the democratic process is amazing. They know it, they understand it and they fight for it. When they do not understand something, they ask me. I go from garrison to garrison and explain it to them. It is completely contrary to what many say about me not being in command and being a puppet, and a lot of other things. No, that is not true. The problem is that I do not dictate, I try to convince. The thing I am dealing with -- forgive me for repeating it -- is a historic project.

In everything I do -- if for example, I am dealing with the private sector -- instead of making resolutions, I go and try to convince them. Sometimes they do not even take notice of me; they violently attack me. I am going to ask you a question: When changes in the currency were made in Mexico, did the government warn the people 4 months in advance?

[Diaz] They did not even warn us 4 minutes in advance.

[Duarte] Not even 4 minutes, right? They did it early in the morning, oh, and they closed the banks, that is the regular procedure. I summoned the private sector here in September and I told them: This is the country's problem and I am going to devaluate our currency. Tell me, what nation in the world does things this way? I am trying to convince the people because I do not believe in a democracy with old mental frameworks and old values; I believe in a new man for a new democracy. However, to make that new man, I have to convince him first. I convince workers, businessmen, and militarymen, and so I advance. Therefore, each time I make a decision, I make it because I have attained a political context that allows me to accomplish my plan. For example: dialogue. You could not speak of dialogue here before. When I assumed the presidency to speak of dialogue was a mortal sin, in the same way that to speak of negotiations is a mortal sin today. People got the shivers from the words dialogue and negotiations. They could not understand them.

[Diaz] When will the dialogue [with the Salvadoran rebels] be resumed?

[Duarte] Whenever those gentlemen wish, I hope. I can always ready to talk.

[Diaz] To talk inside the country?

[Duarte] I have proposed the way to hold it inside the country. But the important thing now is to tell you that my policy is to define my position within available circumstances. I found the circumstances and my first political project was the dialogue....why?....Because if you asked the people going to the polls why they were voting, their reply was that they were doing it for peace. This is why I started the dialogue and why I am involved in an honest and sincere search for peace. The dialogue in La Palma was great. It was an expression of both sides that they wanted to achieve peace. However, the same did not occur in Aguayalo, because those gentlemen went to it with a warmongering attitude. I told them, gentlemen: I want to talk of peace not war and gave them three basic points on which to hold the dialogue. I told them I cannot go against the Constitution because the minute I do that I'll stop being the president. If I tell you that the elections are not valid and that we will form a coalition government, including those up in arms, and we will both sit behind a desk to run the country as the president of the Republic, I would no longer be a valid interlocutor. The third thing I cannot do is to negotiate with weapons on the table. Those who have more machine guns would be in command. And what would happen to the people when they begin to issue orders and make decisions with weapons on the table?

History gives us a lesson because it is the result of violence and death, blood and arms. I am not a man who believes in that. For this reason, they will not force me to sit and discuss on that basis. In conclusion, I propose another thing to them: Look, there is the pope's definition of what is a sincere dialogue and a tactical dialogue. I want the former. Let's sit down and talk, if you want to, let's look for points of agreement because the dialogue should not frustrate the people. When we hold the third dialogue in El Salvador, we have to go to the streets and say: People, this is the achievement of the dialogue because if we accomplish it we will strengthen democracy.

[Diaz] Could it be internal?

[Duarte] In the first place, it must not be a show or any propaganda gimmick. It must be the result of external preparation. Before the room gets full of newsmen there must be commission work carried out and when we have decided on something then we can tell the people that the dialogue was a good instrument. Because if we sit down and argue: I tell them and they tell me, I blame them and they blame me, then what would the people think? I cannot kill an instrument as important as the dialogue in the search for peace. I have to protect it.

[Diaz] Are there any commission tasks being carried out, Mr President?

[Duarte] We have the clergy as intermediary. The archbishop is constantly in communication with them and with us searching for elements that can serve us as points of reference. In general terms, I can tell you that I have vowed to reach a goal and I am not stepping back an inch. This goal is democracy and I am fighting for this democracy. I don't want to change my course. I obviously have the left wing and right wing against me because they don't want democracy; they don't like it. However, the Armed Forces have fully defined their positions in this regard because if it had not been this way, I would have been ousted a long time ago. But the people have been understanding and making progress. I think that you can analyze the military situation, the respect for human rights. You can go anywhere. You can talk with the Red Cross people, and the church. Check with anyone.

Some will tell you that things aren't too good. But if you analyze the overall dimension and idea of the struggle for human rights you will see that there has been a radical change between what the country was like in the 1980's and what it is now. Obviously, the left wing does not like this because of a simple reason; because they left for the mountains in view of the injustice and lack of liberties for the people. These are the problems that I am trying to resolve. I attack the causes and not the effects. A man with a rifle in his hand does not solve the misery of the people. He does not solve the problem of injustice and liberty. He can solve the problem of power but that is another thing. I am telling the truth and, of course, the left wing and the right wing do not like that because they know that I am affecting the heart of their power and absolute hegemony. Therefore, then, I am working in that direction. I am doing everything possible. But I am not God either -- right? -- to solve all the problems. There are many problems and I don't have the time some times to face all of them but I am doing whatever is possible. We keep moving on.

[Diaz] Why do you not suggest to the two superpowers to stop meddling in the affairs of the countries of the area at the upcoming meeting of Central American presidents?

[Duarte] But I have spent 7 years telling Nicaragua the same thing.

[Diaz] And to the United States?

[Duarte] Yes. You have never heard that I have said that I am in favor of or against the anti-Sandinists. I can clearly state that I cannot agree with any guerrilla movement in the world because I would automatically be allowing another nation to say that it agrees with the Salvadoran guerrillas. I am facing a guerrilla movement. These are the dangers existing in our world. For this reason, the Contadora resolution spells out the way to coexist with others. This is why I believe in democracy, because it is only in a formal democracy that you vote. Democracy is a projection of life itself. It is a process. It is a permanent perfectibility. Democracy must also be within a plural environment. It cannot be isolated in the midst of dictatorships. It would smother. This democracy must seek a climate to develop.

Therefore, these are the phenomena that cannot be ignored. This is my position: first, I cannot establish a policy regarding the guerrillas of other places, and second, I cannot ignore that Nicaragua is constantly interfering in the Salvadoran problem and is the sanctuary of the Salvadoran guerrillas. This is a reality that no one can ignore because there are clear remarks by Ortega, Borge, and Sergio Ramirez, all of them, regarding their full support for the Salvadoran guerrillas. However, nothing has been said about that. Then, see how there is a danger. What should I do so that Nicaragua won't interfere in our affairs? How do I propose political formulas that it respects, just as I respect theirs? What should I do so they won't send weapons and stop being their sanctuary? However, since they won't pay any attention, I need to have protection so these gentlemen won't continue this.

[Diaz] He made a comparison between the problems of El Salvador and Nicaragua:

[Duarte] We worry here every day about where the ship, canoe, barge, or plane comes from, in which cars will the rifles be brought. The center of operations and radio communications that the guerrillas have in Managua should be investigated. In sum, this is a constant concern that we have regarding Nicaragua. We cannot have peace. This is why I proposed that we look for internal peace, and if Nicaragua has an armed conflict inside its border and I have another, and if the two, somehow, are prompting unrest in the area, then we must talk, man to man. Let's make an effort, I suggested to Ortega. He told me no, because my guerrillas are good and his guerrillas are bad. I am not describing the guerrillas, I said to him, I said that you have an armed conflict and I have another and that there is internal destabilization. Let's sit and talk, you and I, to see if we reach an agreement. What would you do, I'd say, if I started to cause trouble for you there? Imagine what would happen if there was reciprocity to the same degree. The danger is that if the Nicaraguans don't understand that their survival lies precisely on the guarantee that Contradora and Central America are offering them, then I don't know what can be done. But we must understand the ideological concept, and that is another thing.

[Diaz] Is Mexico playing a naive role in Contadora?

[Duarte] No. I think that we must define the role of the Contadora nations as a diplomatic effort because they offered their good offices, and this is a normal action by any nation in the world.

[Diaz] But the specific problem is that the Nicaraguans don't want to sign the Contadora document, isn't it true?

[Duarte]. It is not only something that is being said, it is a reality. Every time we meet and are about to sign, Nicaragua requests the floor and states that it won't sign. It is not an opinion, but the truth.

[Diaz] How has Mexico proceeded in these discussions?

[Duarte] I think that there were even some moments of strong arguments between Mexico and Nicaragua in which your country was exerting pressure on Nicaragua to sign, and Colombia did likewise. What happens is that there are many things that are not said, but, internally, in these meetings, there have been violent clashes between one and the other.

Once the conclusion was reached that the problems were going to be resolved multilaterally, but Nicaragua began to place conditions so as not to sign. No progress has been made. For example, the last pretext it used was to tell Colombia that San Andres Island belongs to Nicaragua. Why promote a crisis inside Contadora?

[Diaz] If those people are intelligent, as we know they are, why don't the people of Managua know about these arguments?

[Duarte] I think that they follow a universal ideology, because if this was not so, what did the Russians and the Cubans have to do at the last Panama meeting?

[Diaz] Aren't they too anxious or too desperate?

[Duarte] I told Ortega that but the media wouldn't publish it. There we were, in Guatemala, standing 50 cm away from the newsmen and I told him: Look, you are sick. You have a phobia of the Marines and you are justifying everything on the fact that you believe that the Marines are going to invade you. Even repression in your country is justified because of this. You attack the church, censor the media, take people prisoner, and persecute unionists and all of this is justified because of this invasion.

[Diaz] Isn't it true that they will be invaded?

[Duarte] It is not that it is not justifiable. [as published] You know that they will not be invaded. There is no one in the world who, after analyzing U.S. policy, will reach the conclusion that such a thing is possible. But the Nicaraguans have had barricades in their streets for the past 5 years and Ortega keeps giving a date for the invasion and keeps the people afraid.

[Diaz] But on this issue of invasions and attacks, there are the examples of Grenada and Libya, Mr President.

[Duarte] In Grenada, the attack was carried out without anyone knowing it, right? If it was discussed afterward, and if it was good or bad that is another thing. But in this case, you have all the people hanging by a thread waiting to see what will happen in this situation. U.S. political parties are arguing about it, there is a confrontation. In other words the U.S. democratic dialogue on foreign problems is working perfectly well.

[Diaz] But how can Reagan aid to the contras benefit peace?

[Duarte] We are not becoming involved in that mess. That is their problem and a problem of their policy, whether good or bad, that is theirs. What I become involved in is what affects me. Let them look for a solution that solves my problems with Nicaragua and I will be happy, but this solution has not been found. I have enough with my problems which are gigantic and I have the clear decision to lead my country to democracy, so I can't go around meddling in other people's problems. For this reason, I have refused to analyze the contra problem from a universal point of view which is what you are asking. I have enough with what is happening in my country and the situation in my fatherland. (To be continued)

GUATEMALAN POLICE HOLD 2 FROM 'GANG OF KIDNAPPERS'

PA290236 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSKL in Spanish 1730 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Excerpt] Important government sources have told this radio station that during the weekend Guatemalan police captured two people mentioned by Isidro Lopez Cibrian and Orlando Llovera Valet, who reportedly belong to the gang of kidnappers.

According to reports received by this station, military man Joaquin Zacapa and farmer [Antonio] Cornejo were detained by the Guatemalan police over the weekend. It has also been reported that on 28 and 29 March -- during Holy Week -- the two men left the country through Las Chinamas. They had permission to enter Guatemala, but not to leave El Salvador. It was also said that a Salvadoran migration official gave them a special pass that allowed them to enter Guatemalan territory. According to the source, no information about those involved in the gang of kidnappers had been released at the time. The two men, however, felt they were pursued by the authorities seeking the kidnappers.

GUATEMALA

CEREZO SENDS LETTER TO MUTUAL AID GROUP SIT-IN

PA300440 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Soon after the Mutual Aid Group [GAM] began its sit-in in front of the National Palace, President Vinicio Cerezo sent it a letter in which he refers to the appointment of a commission to investigate the physical and legal status of persons who have disappeared in Guatemala.

President Cerezo proposed a commission comprised by organizations not linked to the government and by persons well-known in Guatemala for their active role in politics. President Cerezo has suggested the appointment of Jorge Toriello Garrido, Guatemalan Red Cross president, and well-known political figure Danilo Barrillas, to form the investigating commission. Cerezo also told GAM that the necessary steps have been taken to appoint the commission with the cooperation of nongovernmental organizations in the country.

Isabel de Castanon, GAM leader, told our reporter that the letter sent by President Cerezo has many vague points and that the only specific proposal is the appointment of Toriello Garrido as member of the commission -- although this has not been confirmed -- and also of Danilo Barillas, secretary general of the Democratic Civic Front.

Isabel de Castanon added that President Cerezo's letter does not satisfy her because it is not definite about anything, especially since it refers to nongovernmental organizations without mentioning any specific group.

The GAM will complete its 24-hour sit-in, and although it has not rejected Cerezo's letter, it has not accepted it either. At the next meeting of the board of directors they will carefully analyze the contents of the letter to reach a decision as soon as possible to make a counterproposal.

On 13 February, the GAM proposed that President Arevalo appoint labor leaders, university students, and representatives of other sectors of our society, but nothing has been heard about this proposal.

Meanwhile, the GAM will remain in front of the National Palace until noon tomorrow.

Unsitragua Supports Demands

PA300420 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] The Trade Union of Guatemalan Workers, Unsitragua, expressed its solidarity with the Mutual Aid Group, which began a sit-in demonstration at 1200 noon today in front of the National Palace, and which it will end at 1200 on 30 April. Unsitragua said that the Mutual Aid Group demands are humanitarian; it wants the return of the persons who have disappeared alive, and respect for human rights in Guatemala. Unsitragua urges labor and students organizations and the people in general to give moral and material support to the Mutual Aid Group during its sit-in demonstration.

TRADE UNION REJECTS GOVERNMENT'S WAGE POLICY

PA300310 Guatemala City Cadena de Emisoras Unidas in Spanish 0050 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Juan Francisco Alfaro, secretary general of the Confederation for Trade Union Unity, CUS, explained to our reporter why CUS does not accept the government's wage policy. Alfaro said that it was humilitating to the Guatemalan workers' dignity to accept the wage increase offered by the Government. Firm in his defense of the workers' interests, Alfaro said that the government's proposal was an insult to the workers' dignity. He added that CUS was not boycotting Labor Day celebrations, as Labor Minister Catalina Soberanis accused them of doing. Alfaro explained that CUS decided to carry out other activities on that day, different from those other labor organizations will carry out on 1 May. CUS has not asked the workers not to participate in the Labor Day celebration, we are only telling our members that CUS is not going to participate in the Labor Day parade, Alfaro said.

HONDURAS

UNHCR DISCUSSES REFUGEE FIGURES, REPATRIATION

PA301328 San Pedro Sula TIEMPO in Spanish 28 Apr 86 p 14

[Excerpts] According to estimates of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR], the 48,000 refugees, victims of the Central American drama, account for more than 1 percent of the Honduran population. "It would be as if 2.5 million refugees entered the United States or as if 700,000 refugees entered Mexico," Waldo Luis Villalpando, the UNHCR representative, said.

"We would have to fence the border or mine it in order to prevent them from entering," Colonel Abraham Garcia Turcios, coordinator of the National Commission for Refugees (Conare), said.

According to Dr Villalpando, "The Honduran Government has shown goodwill and seriousness despite the social impact implied in the entry of thousands of refugees.

According to the most recent UNHCR census, by 31 March there were 536 Guatemalans, 20,778 Salvadorans, and 19,039 Nicaraguans in Honduras. The Nicaraguans include 13,200 Indians. In the past 2 weeks, 7,500 more Indians entered into the country, Villalpando said. Together, they total 47,903.

According to Villalpando, the UNHCR supplies 98 percent of the funds given refugees for basic survival elements. Security is the concern of the government. He said that "the UNHCR does not oppose and has never opposed the Honduran Government adopting security measures in the refugee camps. The only thing is that the UNHCR asks that they be implemented after they have consulted with UNHCR officials and without any abuses against the refugees."

Villalpando refused to comment on the 29 August incident in which a large contingent of soldiers of the 10th Battalion, with headquarters in Marcana, La Paz Department, took over the Colomoncagua camp by surprise. Three people were killed, including a 2-year-old girl; 50 people were wounded; 10 were captured.

According to Villalpando's report to TIEMPO, the voluntary repatriation programs have failed. So far in 1986, only 331 Salvadorans and 83 Nicaraguans have returned to their countries, and the outlook for this is not too encouraging.

Honduras has established contacts to repatriate Guatemalans and Salvadorans, but there is a negative inclination of the part of Honduran officials to allow the repatriation of Nicaraguans. Villalpando noted that "there has always been talk of voluntary repatriation and the UNHCR has always been willing to permit this voluntary repatriation." He said that all the countries of the world respect the decision of the refugees. "The UNHCR helps to give this protection and in Honduras we are not going against the government. On the contrary, we are helping it with this task.

"Honduras is paying a high social price for the refugee problem, but it is not the only country in the world that has them," he stressed. "It is true," he emphasized, "that the social impact for Honduras is much bigger." "The refugees amount to more than 40,000 people, they are more than 1 percent of the population, and the Honduran population amounts to approximately 4 million. Honduras has protected the refugees with dignity," he concluded.

GOVERNMENT PARDONS ALVAREZ MARTINEZ, TORRES ARIAS

PA302329 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1130 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] [General Gustavo] Alvarez Martinez and [Colonel Leonidas] Torres Arias are no longer considered traitors because they have been pardoned by the amnesty decree recently issued by the National Congress. The announcement was issued by Attorney General Ruben Zepeda.

Alvarez Martinez, accused of embezzling 60 million lempiras from the Honduran Armed Forces' budget, will not be tried by the military corps, it was stated by Attorney General Ruben Zepeda Gutierrez. Alvarez Martinez has been pardoned of the alleged perpetration of this embezzlement, given that the accusation was described as treason to the homeland. This is considered a political crime and political crimes were pardoned by the National Congress' recently issued amnesty decree. General Alvarez Martinez, according to the attorney general, may enter the country and respond to charges in a civilian court only. He has no charges pending the military courts.

[Begin Zepeda recording] Well, in this case former Gen Alvarez Martinez has been dishonorably discharged from the Armed Forces. Consequently, the military courts cannot handle any charges against him. I was referring to civilian matters; I think he must face some charges which are linked with Valentin Flores and Co. In fact, any charges which anyone may want to press against him must be done so through the civilian courts, because he is a simple civilian citizen and is not subject to military laws.

Col Torres Arias does face the charges on his participation in the Ferrari couple crime. If he ever comes to Honduras he will have to appear before a court so that the case can be investigated. I do not know if he has any other cases pending concerning civilian matters. [end recording]

Col Torres Arias' arrival will apparently take place after General Alvaraz Martinez is in the country. Torres was chief of military intelligence when the much-publicized drug trafficking scandal and the Ferrari couple's murder took place. In Col Torres Arias' case, the former G-2 chief will have to answer charges against him at the first criminal court. However, he has been pardoned concerning military charges against him. Torres Arias was in Mexico when he issued charges against Gen Alvarez Martinez and the top military echelon; this provoked his expulsion and a request was issued for his extradition. How is it that he and Alvarez Martinez can enter the country?

[Begin Zepeda recording] The National Congress has granted them amnesty; therefore, the judge in charge of the case must immediately close it. When they arrive here the corresponding letter of absolution will be issued for them. All this does not affect, however, other charges against them. [end recording]

The attorney general asserted that Alvarez Martinez' and Torres Arias' crimes can be summarized as political crimes.

[Begin Zepeda recording] Since the decree makes no provision for these crimes, we have a legal rule which says that if a decree makes no provision it is enforced without distinction. Consequently, since the amnesty decree was issued in a general way, meaning it includes everyone, this would include all types of political crimes. [end recording]

NICARAGUA

GOVERNMENT PROTESTS HONDURAN BORDER INCIDENTS

PA010415 Managua International Service in Spanish 0339 GMT 1 May 86

[Text] A new and strong protest note has been sent by the Nicaraguan Government to Honduras in view of new actions of provocation carried out by the soldiers of the neighboring country. We now give you the text of the official Nicaraguan note:

The Information and Press Directorate of the Foreign Ministry hereby reports that the Nicaraguan Government, through the Foreign Ministry, has sent the following protest note to Honduran Foreign Secretary Carlos Lopez Contreras:

I am addressing Your Excellency to refer to the serious and repeated incidents that are as follows:

At 1900 on 27 April Honduran Army troops on Honduran territory harassed the observation points of the EPS in Mirupuchi and El Guasapo, which are 17 km and 14 km from Jalapa, respectively. During this attack, they used 50- and 60-mm machine guns as well as M-79 rocket launchers.

Likewise, on 29 April, an undetermined number of mercenaries on Honduran territory harassed the EPS border posts in Buena Vista and Kum, which are 28 km and 30 km east of Waspan, respectively.

Once again the Nicaraguan Government is denouncing these incidents and wishes to voice to the Honduran authorities our serious concern over this series of attacks against our national territory that has been taking place in recent days. We have been promptly reporting to Your Excellency about these attacks.

I must emphasize in a special manner the fact that these attacks are taking place at a very critical time for the region. As Your Excellency knows, the U.S. Government has been increasing its aggressive and warmongering campaign against the Nicaraguan Government. Evidence of this is the fact that the U.S. Government has requested funds from the U.S. Congress for the mercenary forces as well as the threats against my country that were recently made by the U.S. President himself before the Heritage Foundation.

The Nicaraguan Government does not doubt that actions such as the ones we have mentioned as provocation maneuvers are promoted by the U.S. Government with the purpose of creating incidents that will deteriorate Nicaragua's relations with the neighboring countries in such a manner that they will allow it to support the campaigns against my country.

These efforts by the U.S. Administration are part of the confrontation that government maintains with the Latin American stand of seeking peaceful solutions to the crisis. Likewise, such actions are promoted by the U.S. Government with the purpose of hindering the efforts of dialogue and understanding that are being carried out and will culminate during the Central American presidents meeting in Esquipulas.

Once again, the Nicaraguan Government makes an urgent appeal to the Honduran Government authorities with the firm purpose of imposing strict control measures over its territory, thus preventing the parties interested in deteriorating our relations and affecting the peace efforts of the Contadora Group from using such incidents to justify new and greater aggressions against the people and government of Nicaragua.

I avail myself of this opportunity to present to Your Excellency the token of my highest esteem and consideration.

[Signed] Acting Foreign Minister Javier Chamorro Mora

D'ESCOTO SAYS U.S. WORLD TERRORISM LEADER

PA301414 Managua International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Upon arriving in the Republic of Ireland, Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Miguel D'Escoto described the United States as the world leader of state terrorism. In statements to Radio Ireland, he accused the U.S. Administration of being not only the world leader of state terrorism, but also of being the instigators and promoters of the philosophy that serves as the theoretical base for such actions.

Finally, Minister D'Escoto urged the U.S. Catholic Church to help prevent that country from drowning in the blood of innocent Nicaraguans.

OPPOSITION GROUPS: CONTADORA TO BENEFIT SANDINISTS

PA300254 Bogota EL TIEMPO in Spanish 25 Apr 86 p 5D

[Excerpt] The most important leaders of Nicaragua's noncommunist parties agree that it is likely the Contadora accord will benefit the Sandinists and harm those who struggle legally in Nicaragua to restore democracy in the country.

A delegation formed by the top leaders of the democratic parties opposing the Sandinist regime visited Colombia and met with Foreign Minister Augusto Ramirez Ocampo and President Belisario Betancur to voice their stance regarding the possible signing of the Contadora document on 6 June.

Mario Rappaccioli, national president of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party, PCN, asserted: "From sheer exhaustion, the Contadora foreign ministers will sign a border security accord that will benefit the Sandinists and sidestep Nicaragua's domestic problem. A great majority of the people struggle to restore democracy in the country."

Unanimously, the top leaders of the Nicaraguan political forces that oppose the Sandinists' consolidation of a communist regime in the country feel that Contadora might well result in rendering a great service to the Sandinists and practically sentencing the democrats, who wage a domestic legal struggle, to extinction.

These are the names of those who arrived in Colombia from Managua: Enrique Sotelo, PCN coordinator; national PCN President Rappaccioli; Social Christian Party [PSC] President Erick Ramirez; Independent Liberal Party President Virgilio Godoy Rey; and Ignacio Miranda Chamorro, member of the Constitutionalist Liberal Party's national directorate.

Outlining the basic idea that brought them to Bogota as part of a tour through all the Contadora and support countries, Ramirez stated: "A solution to the Nicaraguan problem cannot exclude the Nicaraguan democratic political parties that wage a civic and peaceful struggle to restore democracy in the country."

Chamorro said: "The solution of the conflict in Central America is not to sign a document including matters related to border security and arms control, that is to say, simple general military matters. A true solution would be to promote democracy in Nicaragua."

Godoy pointed out: "Contadora has disregarded national interests. The Central American problem has two sides, one national and another international. The international side cannot be solved without first solving the national side because the factors that feed the international crisis among the various countries are generated from within."

Sotelo stressed: "In alarm, we have seen that an overall military solution is being sought disregarding Nicaragua's democratization, that is the one factor that can bring peace in the end. It is necessary that our problems be included in the Contadora resolution."

Rappaccioli also said: "If the Contadora document is signed just as it is, particularly regarding Nicaragua, something similar to what happened with Cuba can occur. After the United States and the Soviet Union reached an agreement about the missiles, Fidel Castro was free to consolidate the Communist regime in the country, as demonstrated by the island's current reality."

Ramirez again pointed out: "Yet it is very important to make it clear that we are not attacking Contadora or trying to impose anything on it. We are rather trying to make it aware that, through sheer exhaustion of so many years of debates, it is possible to reach an agreement that will not benefit Nicaragua's domestic democratic possibilities in the least, but will do the Sandinists much good."

U.S. AID TO CONTRAS CRITICIZED AT UNAG CONGRESS

PA300339 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Apr 86 p 4

[Text] Victor Tirado, commander of the revolution, said yesterday at the closing ceremony of the first congress of the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen, UNAG, that the congress had been a success in strengthening the peasants' organization. President Daniel Ortega and Jaime Wheelock, commander of the revolution and agricultural development and agrarian reform minister, were present at the ceremony.

Tirado congratulated UNAG on behalf of the FSLN National Directorate and referred to the way "it has strengthen the struggle against imperialism and the battle to increase production, which has contributed to the improvement of the workers-peasants alliance and to the promotion of the agrarian reform."

Tirado added that the agrarian reform will continue until it meets the needs of those that do not have any land or have too little to be of any practical use. Tirado urged the large landowners to either sell, give up, or exchange part of their land, to help in a Christian manner, to close the unjust economic gap which exists in rural areas.

Meanwhile, UNAG President Daniel Nunez referred to the resolution approved at the UNAG congress, which was named after Olof Palme, in homage to "an honest man who had the courage to come to Nicaragua in defiance of Reagan's policy."

He also talked about the strategic value of the workers-peasants alliance the need to increase production by working hard 8 hours, and the need to promote agrarian reform, which together with the supply of goods, are the most urgent needs in rural areas.

Foreign delegations invited to the event issued a resolution criticizing U.S. aid to the counterrevolutionary bands and supported Niaragua's decision to sign the Contadora peace plan if the United States completely stops its aggression.

CIA ACCUSED OF USING UNHCR TO DECEIVE MISKITOS

PA281601 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] Subcommander Salvador Perez, delegate of the Interior Ministry in Northern Zelaya, yesterday charged that the CIA wants to use the actions of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees [UNHCR] to continue deceiving the Miskito people. Perez, who met with Jaime Ruiz Santiago, the UNHCR representative in Nicaragua, and a dozen foreign newsmen, said that the KISAN [Unity of the Nicaraguan Atlantic Coast Indigenous Peoples] warmongering groups that are in collusion with the FDN and the CIA are responsible for the kidnapping of Miskitos who live on the banks of the Coco River. He explained that the kidnappers deceive Indians, telling them that the UNHCR will build houses for them and give them clothes and food as if they were refugees. He said that there is no amnesty for kidnapped Miskitos because they can return to their territories any time they want.

However, he noted, there are many pressures and even threats of murder against those Indians who want to return to their communities. He said that the regional government has the necessary conditions to receive the Miskitos who were kidnapped to Honduras and want to return to their communities.

IRANIAN AMBASSADOR COMMENTS ON U.S., LIBYA

PA302153 Managua BARRICADA in Spanish 28 Apr 86 p 4

[Text] Regarding President Reagan's accusations against Libya and Nicaragua, Mohammad Payrovi, ambassador of the Islamic Republic of Iran to Nicaragua, has said that if the United States accuses us of being terrorists because we defend our sovereignty, self-determination, and our minimum rights to life, then we are terrorists."

"Those accusations are not only aimed at Libya and Nicaragua, but also at Cuba, Iran, and all the countries defending their right to self-determination and sovereignty," the Iranian diplomat stressed while commenting on recent world incidents.

The Iranian ambassador added: "Those accusations are just an alternative the U.S. Government is employing to continue its aggressive campaign against our sovereign peoples." He then asked: Is not terrorism supporting the contras with $100 million so that they can attack Nicaragua, and supporting and giving political asylum to the Iranian counterrevolutionaries who have killed the main leaders of our revolution? Are not the U.S. attack against Grenada and an attack on sleeping people during the early morning hours with sophisticated planes, as happened in Libya, acts of terrorism? Is not that terrorism? Anyone with a logical and free mind can identify who the real terrorist is."

"What happens is that we do not have access to the imperialist media sources in order to show who the world's terrorist is. However, we are sure that one day, the hearts will be able to hear the message of the free nations of the world."

Payrovi stressed that the recent U.S. attack against Libya should be considered a warning by the revolutionary countries being accused by the U.S. Govenment only because they want to be free and sovereign. We see the Nicaragua revolution as a young revolution, in a country that has lived under repression and under a dictatorship for many years, the same as ours, and therefore we consider them twin revolutions," [quotation marks as published] Ambassador Payrovi said at the beginning of the interview.

"Nicaragua has resisted the U.S. Government's repression, and we have witnessed the attacks against the Nicaraguan people, who are defending their sovereignty by paying a very high price, even the blood of their best children."

The Iranian ambassador reiterated the solidarity of his government and people with our revolution, which began even before the revolution's victory on 19 July 1979. He recalled that on one occasion, while still in exile, the poet Ernesto Cardenal, who is currently the Nicaraguan minister of culture, met with the leader Ayatollah Khomeyni.

During the meeting, Cardenal explained the reason for our struggle. As of that moment, the Sandinist people's revolution was recognized, and immediately following the triumph of the revolution, an Iranian Embassy was opened in Central America with its headquarters located in Managua. This was the first Iranian Embassy in Central America.

The Iranian diplomat admitted that "diplomatic and political relations have been strengthened; however, this has not been the case in the economic area. The economic relations between the two have not reached the desired level."

To date, Iran has granted Nicaragua $60 million in loans and in the future, "we hope that the negotiations will enable a stronger exchange betwen the two nations," the ambassador said. In the area of exchange, Iran buys sugar, meat, and coffee from Nicaragua and in the future, this exchange is expected to increase.

The diplomat said that these purchases are made within the framework of a country at war, a cruel and probably the worst war since the end of World War II. However, there is a willingness to support the underdeveloped countries that need to sell their products and to open new markets in face of the aggressive policy practiced by the U.S. Government.

Total Solidarity With Libya

The Iranian ambassador to Nicaragua expressed his full support for the government and people of Libya. "We have considered making a common cause with the suffering of the Libyan people and we are willing to defend and support Libya's defense in face of the U.S. aggression," the ambassador added. "Reagan and his administration must be punished for their criminal actions and we have strongly condemned the aggression, and offered to help the people and government of Libya in any way they wish."

Regarding the U.S. interventionist intentions against the underdeveloped countries, the ambassador recalled that just recently, U.S. Vice President George Bush told the reactionary governments along the Persian Gulf that should a provocation occur in that area, the United States would not wait for those governments to ask for help, but rather, would intervene immediately. The Iranian ambassador also mentioned the fact that the United States not only helps the counterrevolutionaries in Honduras with weapons, but also with Yankee advisers.

TANA ISSUES INTERNATIONAL LABOR DAY COMMUNIQUE

PA010127 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1930 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Communique released by Anti-Imperialist Tribunal of Our America, TANA, on the occasion of the commemoration of International Labor Day, 1 May -- read by announcer]

[Text] The existence of the Sandinist poeople's revolution in Nicaragua is the most important and historical homage that this heroic people can offer to the martyrs of Chicago who offered their lives against exploitation and for a world free of social injustice 100 years ago. With the revolutionary victory of 19 July 1979 and in the framework of political pluralism, a mixed economy, and nonalignment, this nation not only broke the chains of the infamous Somozist dictatorship, but began to build and transform all the obsolete structures imposed by U.S. imperialism during the past century. It is no mere coincidence, then, that the current Reagan administration has unleashed a cruel war against Nicaragua to try to destroy the revolutionary process by using the most miserable military, economic, and other aggressions, which have caused more than 13,000 victims, including dead, wounded, missing, and kidnapped; and material losses of more than $1.5 billion, during the past 5 years.

It is no mere coincidence either, but an example of the U.S. warmongering and interventionist policy, that as soon as Nicaragua announced its willingness to sign the peace accord on 6 June if the United States ceases its aggression against Nicaragua, the United States initiated new military exercises: "Ocean Venture 86" in the Caribbean and "Cabanas 86" on the Honduran-Nicaraguan border; launches an attack with Piranha-type speedboats against Nicaraguan territory in the Gulf of Fonseca, and trains special military groups in their Panama bases. Also, the CIA plots a self-inflicted attack against Lewis Tambs, U.S. ambassador to Costa Rica, in order to blame Nicaragua. These facts demonstrate the U.S.' scorn for the Contadora peace document and the Support Group.

For this reason, on congratulating all revolutionary workers of Nicaragua and our America on the 100th anniversary of workers' day, the TANA president invites them to heed the patriotic appeal made by the Sandinist Central Organization of Workers, the Association of Agricultural Workers, the Health Workers Federation, the National Union of Workers, the National Association of Nicaraguan Teachers, the National Union of Farmers and Cattlemen, and the Union of Nicaraguan Journalists, to be prepared to confront and defeat all the CIA-directed psychological war drives to make Nicaragua appear abroad not as a nation attacked, but as the aggressor nation and the enemy of peace in Central America.

[Signed] Guillermo Toriello, international president; Javier Chamorro, president of the executive committee; Freddy Alban, executive secretary.

GOVERNMENT ACCUSED OF CONFISCATING PRIVATE LANDS

PA010336 Paris AFP in Spanish 2237 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Managua, 30 Apr (AFP) -- The Agricultural and Livestock Producers Union of Nicaragua (Upanic), accused the Sandinist government today of "unleashing a wave of indiscriminate confiscations" of properties belonging to the private sector. Upanic President Ramiro Gurdian said during a news conference that during the last 15 days the Ministry of Agricultural-Livestock Development and Agrarian Reform [Midinra] has confiscated at least "21,000 hectares."

The organization -- linked with the opposition Higher Council of Private Enterprise [COSEP] -- also issued a communique accusing the FSLN of "sturbbornly trying" to impose a "Marxist-Leninist system," pointing out that "various methods" have been used to achieve this, including the expropriation of the private sector."

Gurdian said the government "is the largest landowner," and recalled that a recent modification to the agrarian reform law "opens the doors" for "confiscating any property." The current agrarian reform established that all the "idle" or "insufficiently exploited" lands can be taken over.

The milk producers who are affiliated with Upanic said a "legal state" should be urgently installed in Nicaragua, "guaranteeing legal rights so all the producers may work." Upanic has accused the FSLN of "destroying and continuing to destroy all our national riches for the sake of their ideological and noneconomic interests, and based on a system which is alien to the Nicaraguan people's nature."

GOVERNMENT POSTPONES DEBT PAYMENT OF $500 MILLION

PA300426 Hamburg DPA in Spanish 0146 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Havana, 29 Apr (DPA) -- Cuba announced today that it has postponed for 90 days its 1986 payment of its $3.5 billion foreign debt. PRENSA LATINA reported that Cuba is waiting for a "mutually acceptable renegotiation formula" with its Western creditors. The report did not mention the amounts to be paid, however, PRENSA LATINA pointed out that the Cuban Government has asked its creditors for $500 million in fresh loans to be able to comply with its obligations for this year.

The news agency added that the representatives of the group of creditors, who visited Havana recently, have been advised of this decision, which will be implemented on 5 May. The news agency added that Cuba chose this solution because of the "violent depreciation of the dollar; the fast and significant decline in the price of oil, which will affect Cuba's revenue received from the re-export of fuel by more than 50 percent of the calculated amount; and because Hurricane Kate caused material damage of 500 million pesos. [quotation marks as received]

PRENSA LATINA added that the above-mentioned determined a "drastic reduction" of Cuba's revenue in free convertible currency calculated at $500 million. Therefore, the Cuban Government "has requested an equal amount in fresh loans to cover its payments due for 1986." The news agency also mentioned the drop in the price of sugar on the interntional market and the limited access to the markets in the creditor countries due to protectionist measures, as other causes that determined the net loss in foreign exchange.

During the meeting with the representatives of the creditors, the Cuban Government also proposed a postponement of the short-term deposits that are due in September 1986 and that it be granted a loan -- amount not specified -- to achieve a balance in the balance of payments with a 12-year amortization including a 6-year period of grace. In a letter to Jean de Rosen, president of the group of creditor countries, Hector Rodriguez Llompart, minister president of the National Bank of Cuba, described the problems that prevent his country from meeting its commitments and reiterated that Cuba is willing to put forth its best efforts to meet its obligations.

PERUVIAN PRIME MINISTER ARRIVES ON VISIT

PA301823 Havana International Service in Spanish 2300 GMT 29 Apr 86

[Text] Luis Alva Castro, Peruvian prime minister and minister of economy and finance, arrived in Havana on Tuesday to participate in activities to mark 1 May in response to a Cuban Government invitation. Alva Castro, who is also the Peruvian second vice president, was welcomed at Jose Marti International Airport by Jose Lopez Moreno, minister-president of Cuba's Central Planning Board.

RISQUET MEETS WITH FRG GREEN PARTY DELEGATION

FL301758 Havana Television Service in Spanish 1700 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Poliburo member Jorge Risquet Valdez has met with a Green Party delegation from the FRG invited to Cuba by the National Assembly of the People's Government.

The delegation included Ludger Volmer, deputy and member of the presidency of the party, and (Gabriele Godwell), party faction assistant in the Federal Parliament. During the friendly conversation, they discussed the need for establishing a new international economic order as well as the aggressive U.S. policy towards Central America and Libya. The two representatives also discussed environmental protection, ecology, and the measures adopted by Cuba in these areas.

INTERNATIONAL COMMUNICATIONS SYMPOSIUM ENDS

FL302052 Havana Radio Reloj Network in Spanish 1817 GMT 30 Apr 86

[By Ileana Gonzalez and Juan Emilio (Friguls)]

[Text] During the final session of the international symposium being held to mark the 25th anniversary of Radio Havana Cuba, its participants have agreed on a final statement summing up the main topics discussed. The document read at Havana's Palace of Conventions calls for continuing to make efforts to preserve the cultural identity and to defend the sovereignty through the dissemination of the new international information and communication order concept. The statement defends -- within a multilateral framework -- the UN system and especially the UNESCO. It also encourages the development of an emerging mass communications media as a way to convey to the grassroots a better understanding of the principles of the new international information order.

The statement recommends sponsoring projects through network exchanges, coordination, and cooperation in all fields of communications. The symposium expresses congratulations to and solidarity with Radio Havana Cuba because of its pioneering effort in establshing a new international information and communication order. The meeting of 60 communications media representatives, professors, and journalists recalled that a new decade of important initiatives in the cultural independence process is being marked this year. Among such initiatives are the information sysmposium held in Tunisia in 1976, hosted by the Nonaligned Movement.

AMBASSADOR BLAMES U.S. FOR UN FINANCIAL CRISIS

FL301436 Havana Radio Progreso Network in Spanish 1100 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Cuba has affirmed that the origin of the current UN financial crisis is fundamentally political and because of this its definite solution should also be political. Upon speaking on this topic at the UN General Assembly meeting, Cuban Ambassador Oscar Oramas stressed that the present situation is the result of the constant attacks on multilateralism that the U.S. Government has been promoting for years.

BARBADOS

TRINIDAD'S CHAMBERS ENDS 2-DAY OFFICIAL VISIT

FL300303 Bridgetown CANA in English 0250 GMT 30 Apr 86

[By Reudon Eversley]

[Text] Bridgetown, Barbados, April 29, CANA -- Trinidad and Tobago Prime Minister George Chambers tonight ended a two-day official visit to Barbados, denying press suggestions that previous postponements of the trip were due to strains in relations between the two Caribbean countries. "As far as I know, relations between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados have been eminently satisfactory throughout the years", he told a joint news conference with Prime Minister Bernard St John before leaving for home. "On each occasion that my visit has been postponed, there has been very, very cogent reasons for it which has been explained to the satisfaction of the Barbadian prime minister." Following two rounds of discussions, Chambers and St John agreed on the establishment of a joint committee to recommend ways to boost declining bilateral trade, the main contentious issue between the two states. Chambers said 30 days following the appointment of the committee would be a satisfactory timetable for the submission of recommendations. A joint communique said the two leaders agreed on the need for a bilateral fishing accord, and a double taxation treaty. Joint teams have been mandated to come up with proposals.

Today and yesterday, we have been able to discuss a number of important matters which affect the whole of Caricom and some matters which...are of particular concern of us.. (such) as trade, civil aviation, fisheries, investment, petroleum and joint ventures between the two countries, St John said. On the question of a joint venture between the state airlines of both countries, Chambers said they had asked the negotiators to attempt to finalise their considerations by the end of May. The purpose of the proposed joint air service between BWIA, the Trinidad state carrier, and Caribbean Airways, would be to exploit our potential European routes. Chambers said in their discussions on petroleum, he has raised with St John the possibility of the entry on to the Barbados market of the state-owned national petroleum marketing company of Trinidad and Tobago. Noting that in 1979 Barbados shifted its purchase of reformate and some fuel oil from Venezuela to Trinidad, St John said: That (new Port-of-Spain initiative) is a logical consequence...in the light of the glut in petroleum in the world at the present moment and in light in particular of what has happened to refining capacity in the Caribbean. it is most logical that we should explore the possibility of further intergration into this area. Venezuela is the principal supplier of fuel to Barbados. Noting that exchanges of this type among Caribbean leaders can only do the integration movement good, Chambers invited St John to pay an official visit to Port-of-Spain.

Text of Joint Communique

FL301520 Bridgetown CANA in English 1410 GMT 30 Apr 86

["Text" of communique issued by Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago at the conclusion of a 2-day official visit to Barbados by Trinidad and Tobago's Prime Minister George Chambers]

[Text] The prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago, the Honourable George Chambers, M.P., and the prime minister of Barbados, the Honourable Bernard St John, Q.C., M.P., held discussions in Bridgetown, Barbados, on April 28 and 29, 1986, on the occasion of the official visit to Barbados by the prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago.

The prime ministers were accompanied during their talks by a number of ministers, government officials and advisers.

Prime Ministers Chambers and St John expressed satisfaction that the visit was taking place at this time, since it afforded them the opportunity to engage in a useful exchange of ideas on a number of important bilateral matters, as well as on regional and international issues prior to the forthcoming Caricom heads of government conference in July.

The prime ministers recalled the signing on April 30, 1979, of a memorandum of understanding on matters of cooperation between the governments of Barbados and Trinidad and Tobago and reiterated their commitment to that agreement as a firm basis for meaningful cooperation between their two countries. In this spirit, Prime Ministers Chambers and St John discussed in depth a number of issues which play an important role in their bilateral relationship and, in particular, trade, civil aviation, fisheries, investment, petroleum, and joint ventures between the two countries. They reviewed developments within Caricom, and exchanged views on the strengthening of regional cooperation.

With regard to bilateral trade between Trinidad and Tobago and Barbados, the prime ministers discussed the continuing effects of the international recession upon the region, and the severe contraction of intra-regional trade as a consequence of that recession and of the economic difficulties being experienced by Caricom states.

Prime Minister St John pointed out the severe deterioration in trade between the two countries over the last three years, and outlined the serious difficulties being faced by Barbadian manufacturers in gaining access to the Trinidad and Tobago market.

Prime Minister Chambers reviewed the current economic situation in Trinidad and Tobago in the context of the drastic deterioration in oil prices. He referred to the measures adopted to control that situation, and to their effects on the volume of imports from all sources. He indicated that difficulties were also being experienced by Trinidad and Tobago manufacturers in the Barbados market.

After an extensive analysis of the problems faced by both countries in the conduct of their bilateral trade relations, the prime ministers agreed on the need for the most urgent resolution of these problems, and instructed the creation, with immediate effect, of a joint team of officials on Trinidad and Tobago-Barbados trade relations.

The group was mandated to seek urgent solutions to the remaining procedural difficulties regarding export of goods between the two countries, and to recommend on areas in which the improvement of trade between the two countries can be achieved. It was also directed to analyse the extent to which extra-regional imports impede intra-regional trade.

The prime ministers noted with satisfaction the continued level of cooperation between their two governments in civil aviation matters. The signing, during the visit, by the foreign ministers of the two countries of an agreement designating BWIA as the Barbados carrier on certain routes into the United States of America, was testimony to the positive and mutually beneficial effects of this cooperation.

The prime ministers reiterated their commitments to a harmonized regional approach to air transportation, in keeping with the decisions in this respect agreed upon by the Caricom heads of government.

They expressed satisfaction at the ongoing negotiations between BWIA and Caribbean Airways, and BWIA and Liat, aimed at ensuring cooperation on civil aviation matters to the common benefit of the region. They instructed their officials to present a report on their consultations by the end of May.

On the matter of fisheries, Prime Ministers Chambers and St John agreed on the necessity of concluding an accord that would formally regulate the operation by Barbadian fishermen in the waters of Trinidad and Tobago, and Trinidad and Tobago fishermen in Barbados waters and agreed to appoint a joint team of officials to begin negotiations for this purpose. The team would also be mandated to explore the possibilities of joint ventures and technical cooperation in fisheries between the two countries.

The prime ministers reviewed the performance of the two major joint ventures between their two governments, namely the Arawak cement plant which they formally opened during the visit, and Caricargo, and highlighted their achievements as positive and heartening examples of successful bilateral cooperation.

They discussed investment in financial services, particularly in the field of insurance, and agreed upon the need to conclude a double taxation treaty. The prime ministers instructed that negotiating teams from the two countries prepare a draft agreement on the subject.

Prime Ministers Chambers and St John discussed the area of petroleum and exchanged ideas on continued cooperation between the countries in this field.

In reviewing developments within the Caribbean community, Prime Ministers Chambers and St John agreed on the urgent need to convene a meeting of Caricom ministers of finance, prior to the heads of government meeting, to discuss the Caribbean multilateral clearing facility. In this regard, they committed themselves to exploring new avenues, in collaboration with the CDB [Caribbean Development Bank] and other agencies, for the revival of a payments mechanism for intra-regional trade.

The prime ministers concluded their frank and cordial discussions by expressing satisfaction at the outcome, and committing themselves to giving priority attention to the follow-up on all matters discussed. The prime minister of Trinidad and Tobago expressed his thanks to the government and people of Barbados for the generous hospitality extended to him and his delegation and for the excellent arrangements made for his visit.

HAITI

OPPOSITION CALLS FOR STRIKE, COUNCIL RESIGNATION

FL281210 Bonaire Trans World Radio in English 1130 GMT 28 Apr 86

[Text] The Haitian Government is blaming agitators for the clash between police and demonstrators on Saturday in which as many as eight people died. The incident, in which police opened fire on about 12,000 demonstrators in Port-au-Prince, was the worst confrontation between crowds and security forces since President Jean-Claude Duvalier fled Haiti February 7.

The minister of Interior and National Defense says six people were killed -- three by bullets and three by accidential electrocution -- but doctors at the state hospital said two more victims died of bullet wounds Saturday night and Sunday morning, pushing the total to eight.

Opponents of the new government have denounced the government for allowing the incident to happen. Some are urging the three-member national council of government to resign. Others are calling for a general strike today to protest the incident.

The Interior Ministry defends the shooting, calling it the normal reaction by security forces who were defending Fort Domingo against a crowd that was being pushed by agitators. The demonstrators were commemorating the deaths of dozens of people killed in an April 26, 1963, massacre of opponents of Jean-Claude's father, Francois Duvalier. The two Duvalier regimes tortured and imprisoned opponents at Forth Domingo.

JAMAICA

WPJ RAPS USSR FOR SLOW NUCLEAR ACCIDENT REPORTING

FL302344 Bridgetown CANA in English 2319 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] Kingston, Jamaica, April 30, CANA -- The pro-Moscow Workers Party of Jamaica (WPJ), in a shift from the norm, today mildly rebuked the Soviet Union for its tardiness in providing information about the accident at its Chernobyl nuclear power station in the Ukraine.

In a telegram to Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, WPJ General Secretary Trevor Munroe expressed sympathy over the accident, the consequent loss of life and injuries as well as the emission of radioactive material into the atmosphere to contaminate surrounding areas and neighbouring countries. But Munroe added: The Workers Party and all Jamaicans are disappointed at the apparent slowness of Soviet publicity about the tragedy and look forward to full reports as well as implementation of adequate measures to avoid similar accidents in the future.

The Soviets have been criticised by Western nations for not giving a full account of the accident and for not warning neighbors it had taken place.

The accident apparently occured last weekend, but was only acknowledged by Moscow after Scandinavian countries reported increased radioactivity in their atmosphere this week.

The Soviet Union has said that two persons died in the accident but Western scientists and officials have claimed the figure could be much higher.

Political watchers consider the WPJ rebuke, especially going directly to Gorbachev, as significant. In the past, the Marxist-Leninist party, which generally has between one and five per cent support here, has followed closely the Moscow line.

Jamaican Prime Minister Edward Seaga has also sent a message of sympathy to Gorbachev, but did not mention to Soviet reticence in giving information about the accident. We hope that any longer-term effects of the accident can be minimised, Seaga said.

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

COMMUNIST CANDIDATES ARRESTED WHILE CAMPAIGNING

FL301312 Santo Domingo Radio Antillas Network in Spanish 1000 GMT 30 Apr 86

[Text] In San Juan de la Maguana yesterday, police arrested the commissioner (sindico) candidate from the Dominican Communist Party [PCD], Victor Ramirez (Branda), and PCD town councilman candidate Francisco (Alcantara). Ramirez and (Alcantara) were detained by police agents while they were campaigning for the 16 May elections.

Immediately afterward, the PCD, led by Narciso Isa Conde, demanded the release of the leaders of that political organization saying they had not committed any crime. The number of communist militants' arrests total some 6,000 since Reinaldo (Paraida) and Andres Francisco began campaigning as PCD candidates. The Central Committee of the PCD, upon criticizing the arrests, said this is a violation of the electoral laws which authorize campaigning for elective posts. The Central Committee called on the police chief, Major General Juan Jose Rodriguez Ortiz, to release the four communists imprisoned in San Juan de la Maguana.

URUGUAY

LABOR MINISTER MEETS WITH ARGENTINE COUNTERPART

PY270322 Madrid EFE in Spanish 2251 GMT 26 Apr 86

[Text] Piriapolis (Uruguay), 26 Apr (EFE) -- Labor Minister Hugo Fernandez Faingold and Argentine Labor Minister Hugo Barrionuevo today began meetings to review common issues on labor matters between Uruguay and Argentina. Barrioneuvo arrived at this beach resort east of Montevideo, accompanied by some of his closest aides.

Minister Fernandez Faingold told the press that the purpose of the meetings is "to unify criteria on some basic issues which are common to both ministries from the technical viewpoint." Among the points that will be reviewed are employment policies, wage policies, and issues related to the functioning of other divisions, such as the labor inspection divisions. Fernandez Faingold explained that "these will be 2 days of work," adding that "the Uruguayan Labor Ministry has proposed the establishment of a cooperation program with Argentina to exchange experiences and, basically, to train personnel on both sides of the River Plate."